



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 416

February Session, 2012

Substitute Senate Bill No. 24

Senate, April 16, 2012

The Committee on Education reported through SEN. STILLMAN of the 20th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING EDUCATIONAL COMPETITIVENESS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (d) of section 10-262h of the 2012 supplement
2 to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in
3 lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):

4 (d) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, for the fiscal
5 years ending June 30, 2012, and June 30, 2013, each town shall receive
6 an equalization aid grant in an amount provided for in subdivision (2)
7 of this subsection.

8 (2) Equalization aid grant amounts.

T1	Town	Grant for Fiscal	Grant for Fiscal
T2		Year 2012	Year 2013
T3			
T4	Andover	2,330,856	[2,330,856] <u>2,367,466</u>
T5	Ansonia	15,031,668	[15,031,668] <u>15,571,383</u>

T6	Ashford	3,896,069	[3,896,069] <u>3,931,796</u>
T7	Avon	1,232,688	1,232,688
T8	Barkhamsted	1,615,872	[1,615,872] <u>1,654,360</u>
T9	Beacon Falls	4,044,804	[4,044,804] <u>4,109,097</u>
T10	Berlin	6,169,410	[6,169,410] <u>6,280,132</u>
T11	Bethany	2,030,845	[2,030,845] <u>2,042,361</u>
T12	Bethel	8,157,837	[8,157,837] <u>8,228,760</u>
T13	Bethlehem	1,318,171	[1,318,171] <u>1,318,800</u>
T14	Bloomfield	5,410,345	[5,410,345] <u>5,614,895</u>
T15	Bolton	3,015,660	[3,015,660] 3,038,788
T16	Bozrah	1,229,255	[1,229,255] <u>1,242,936</u>
T17	Branford	1,759,095	[1,759,095] <u>1,824,612</u>
T18	Bridgeport	164,195,344	[164,195,344] <u>168,599,571</u>
T19	Bridgewater	137,292	137,292
T20	Bristol	41,657,314	[41,657,314] <u>43,047,496</u>
T21	Brookfield	1,530,693	[1,530,693] <u>1,545,179</u>
T22	Brooklyn	6,978,295	[6,978,295] <u>7,058,407</u>
T23	Burlington	4,295,578	[4,295,578] <u>4,354,540</u>
T24	Canaan	207,146	[207,146] <u>209,258</u>
T25	Canterbury	4,733,625	[4,733,625] <u>4,754,383</u>
T26	Canton	3,348,790	[3,348,790] <u>3,421,074</u>
T27	Chaplin	1,880,888	[1,880,888] <u>1,893,247</u>
T28	Cheshire	9,298,837	[9,298,837] <u>9,376,495</u>
T29	Chester	665,733	665,733
T30	Clinton	6,465,651	[6,465,651] <u>6,502,667</u>
T31	Colchester	13,547,231	[13,547,231] <u>13,723,859</u>
T32	Colebrook	495,044	[495,044] <u>506,256</u>
T33	Columbia	2,550,037	[2,550,037] <u>2,563,631</u>
T34	Cornwall	85,322	85,322
T35	Coventry	8,845,691	[8,845,691] <u>8,918,028</u>
T36	Cromwell	4,313,692	[4,313,692] <u>4,423,837</u>
T37	Danbury	22,857,956	[22,857,956] <u>24,554,515</u>
T38	Darien	1,616,006	1,616,006
T39	Deep River	1,687,351	[1,687,351] <u>1,711,882</u>
T40	Derby	6,865,689	[6,865,689] <u>7,146,221</u>

T41	Durham	3,954,812	[3,954,812] <u>3,986,743</u>
T42	Eastford	1,109,873	[1,109,873] <u>1,116,844</u>
T43	East Granby	1,301,142	[1,301,142] <u>1,349,822</u>
T44	East Haddam	3,718,223	[3,718,223] <u>3,765,035</u>
T45	East Hampton	7,595,720	[7,595,720] <u>7,665,929</u>
T46	East Hartford	41,710,817	[41,710,817] <u>43,425,561</u>
T47	East Haven	18,764,125	[18,764,125] <u>19,253,992</u>
T48	East Lyme	7,100,611	[7,100,611] <u>7,132,157</u>
T49	Easton	593,868	593,868
T50	East Windsor	5,482,135	[5,482,135] <u>5,650,470</u>
T51	Ellington	9,504,917	[9,504,917] <u>9,649,604</u>
T52	Enfield	28,380,144	[28,380,144] <u>28,810,492</u>
T53	Essex	389,697	389,697
T54	Fairfield	3,590,008	3,590,008
T55	Farmington	1,611,013	1,611,013
T56	Franklin	941,077	[941,077] <u>948,235</u>
T57	Glastonbury	6,201,152	[6,201,152] <u>6,415,031</u>
T58	Goshen	218,188	218,188
T59	Granby	5,394,276	[5,394,276] <u>5,477,633</u>
T60	Greenwich	3,418,642	3,418,642
T61	Griswold	10,735,024	[10,735,024] <u>10,878,817</u>
T62	Groton	25,374,989	[25,374,989] <u>25,625,179</u>
T63	Guilford	3,058,981	3,058,981
T64	Haddam	1,728,610	[1,728,610] <u>1,776,625</u>
T65	Hamden	23,030,761	[23,030,761] <u>23,913,747</u>
T66	Hampton	1,337,582	[1,337,582] <u>1,339,928</u>
T67	Hartford	187,974,890	[187,974,890] <u>192,783,001</u>
T68	Hartland	1,350,837	[1,350,837] <u>1,358,660</u>
T69	Harwinton	2,728,401	[2,728,401] <u>2,760,313</u>
T70	Hebron	6,872,931	[6,872,931] <u>6,969,354</u>
T71	Kent	167,342	167,342
T72	Killingly	15,245,633	[15,245,633] <u>15,625,767</u>
T73	Killingworth	2,227,467	[2,227,467] <u>2,237,730</u>
T74	Lebanon	5,467,634	[5,467,634] <u>5,523,871</u>
T75	Ledyard	12,030,465	[12,030,465] <u>12,141,501</u>

T76	Lisbon	3,899,238	[3,899,238] <u>3,927,193</u>
T77	Litchfield	1,479,851	[1,479,851] <u>1,508,386</u>
T78	Lyme	145,556	145,556
T79	Madison	1,576,061	1,576,061
T80	Manchester	30,619,100	[30,619,100] <u>31,962,679</u>
T81	Mansfield	10,070,677	[10,070,677] <u>10,156,014</u>
T82	Marlborough	3,124,421	[3,124,421] <u>3,171,682</u>
T83	Meriden	53,783,711	[53,783,711] <u>55,561,122</u>
T84	Middlebury	684,186	[684,186] <u>714,234</u>
T85	Middlefield	2,100,239	[2,100,239] <u>2,132,776</u>
T86	Middletown	16,652,386	[16,652,386] <u>17,449,023</u>
T87	Milford	10,728,519	[10,728,519] <u>11,048,292</u>
T88	Monroe	6,572,118	[6,572,118] <u>6,592,969</u>
T89	Montville	12,549,431	[12,549,431] <u>12,715,670</u>
T90	Morris	657,975	657,975
T91	Naugatuck	29,211,401	[29,211,401] <u>29,846,550</u>
T92	New Britain	73,929,296	[73,929,296] <u>76,583,631</u>
T93	New Canaan	1,495,604	1,495,604
T94	New Fairfield	4,414,083	[4,414,083] <u>4,451,451</u>
T95	New Hartford	3,143,902	[3,143,902] <u>3,167,099</u>
T96	New Haven	142,509,525	[142,509,525] <u>146,351,428</u>
T97	Newington	12,632,615	[12,632,615] <u>12,895,927</u>
T98	New London	22,940,565	[22,940,565] <u>23,749,566</u>
T99	New Milford	11,939,587	[11,939,587] <u>12,080,862</u>
T100	Newtown	4,309,646	[4,309,646] <u>4,338,374</u>
T101	Norfolk	381,414	381,414
T102	North Branford	8,117,122	[8,117,122] <u>8,225,632</u>
T103	North Canaan	2,064,592	[2,064,592] <u>2,091,544</u>
T104	North Haven	3,174,940	[3,174,940] <u>3,295,851</u>
T105	North Stonington	2,892,440	[2,892,440] <u>2,906,538</u>
T106	Norwalk	10,095,131	[10,095,131] <u>10,672,607</u>
T107	Norwich	32,316,543	[32,316,543] <u>33,341,525</u>
T108	Old Lyme	605,586	605,586
T109	Old Saybrook	652,677	652,677
T110	Orange	1,055,910	[1,055,910] <u>1,107,407</u>

T111	Oxford	4,606,861	[4,606,861] <u>4,667,270</u>
T112	Plainfield	15,353,204	[15,353,204] <u>15,560,284</u>
T113	Plainville	10,161,853	[10,161,853] <u>10,346,140</u>
T114	Plymouth	9,743,272	[9,743,272] <u>9,876,832</u>
T115	Pomfret	3,092,817	[3,092,817] <u>3,130,001</u>
T116	Portland	4,272,257	[4,272,257] <u>4,347,783</u>
T117	Preston	3,057,025	[3,057,025] <u>3,077,693</u>
T118	Prospect	5,319,201	[5,319,201] <u>5,377,654</u>
T119	Putnam	8,071,851	[8,071,851] <u>8,251,714</u>
T120	Redding	687,733	687,733
T121	Ridgefield	2,063,814	2,063,814
T122	Rocky Hill	3,355,227	[3,355,227] <u>3,481,162</u>
T123	Roxbury	158,114	158,114
T124	Salem	3,099,694	[3,099,694] <u>3,114,216</u>
T125	Salisbury	187,266	187,266
T126	Scotland	1,444,458	[1,444,458] <u>1,450,305</u>
T127	Seymour	9,836,508	[9,836,508] <u>10,004,094</u>
T128	Sharon	145,798	145,798
T129	Shelton	4,975,852	[4,975,852] <u>5,146,279</u>
T130	Sherman	244,327	244,327
T131	Simsbury	5,367,517	[5,367,517] <u>5,513,204</u>
T132	Somers	5,918,636	[5,918,636] <u>5,975,301</u>
T133	Southbury	2,422,233	[2,422,233] <u>2,518,902</u>
T134	Southington	19,839,108	[19,839,108] <u>20,191,195</u>
T135	South Windsor	12,858,826	[12,858,826] <u>13,017,444</u>
T136	Sprague	2,600,651	[2,600,651] <u>2,632,445</u>
T137	Stafford	9,809,424	[9,809,424] <u>9,930,162</u>
T138	Stamford	7,978,877	[7,978,877] <u>8,899,110</u>
T139	Sterling	3,166,394	[3,166,394] <u>3,211,166</u>
T140	Stonington	2,061,204	[2,061,204] <u>2,079,926</u>
T141	Stratford	20,495,602	[20,495,602] <u>21,072,199</u>
T142	Suffield	6,082,494	[6,082,494] <u>6,183,966</u>
T143	Thomaston	5,630,307	[5,630,307] <u>5,712,479</u>
T144	Thompson	7,608,489	[7,608,489] <u>7,674,408</u>
T145	Tolland	10,759,283	[10,759,283] <u>10,866,063</u>

T146	Torrington	23,933,343	[23,933,343] <u>24,402,168</u>
T147	Trumbull	3,031,988	[3,031,988] <u>3,195,332</u>
T148	Union	239,576	[239,576] <u>241,460</u>
T149	Vernon	17,645,165	[17,645,165] <u>18,316,776</u>
T150	Voluntown	2,536,177	[2,536,177] <u>2,550,166</u>
T151	Wallingford	21,440,233	[21,440,233] <u>21,712,580</u>
T152	Warren	99,777	99,777
T153	Washington	240,147	240,147
T154	Waterbury	113,617,182	[113,617,182] <u>118,012,691</u>
T155	Waterford	1,445,404	[1,445,404] <u>1,485,842</u>
T156	Watertown	11,749,383	[11,749,383] <u>11,886,760</u>
T157	Westbrook	427,677	427,677
T158	West Hartford	16,076,120	[16,076,120] <u>16,996,060</u>
T159	West Haven	41,399,303	[41,399,303] <u>42,781,151</u>
T160	Weston	948,564	948,564
T161	Westport	1,988,255	1,988,255
T162	Wethersfield	8,018,422	[8,018,422] <u>8,313,255</u>
T163	Willington	3,676,637	[3,676,637] <u>3,710,213</u>
T164	Wilton	1,557,195	1,557,195
T165	Winchester	7,823,991	[7,823,991] <u>8,031,362</u>
T166	Windham	24,169,717	[24,169,717] <u>24,933,574</u>
T167	Windsor	11,547,663	[11,547,663] <u>11,854,648</u>
T168	Windsor Locks	4,652,368	[4,652,368] <u>4,904,674</u>
T169	Wolcott	13,539,371	[13,539,371] <u>13,685,912</u>
T170	Woodbridge	721,370	721,370
T171	Woodbury	876,018	[876,018] <u>895,683</u>
T172	Woodstock	5,390,055	[5,390,055] <u>5,453,688</u>

9 Sec. 2. Subsections (f) and (g) of section 10-262i of the 2012
10 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is
11 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):

12 (f) (1) Except as otherwise provided under the provisions of
13 subdivisions (3) and (4) of this subsection, for the fiscal year ending
14 June 30, 2012, the budgeted appropriation for education shall be not
15 less than the budgeted appropriation for education for the fiscal year

16 ending June 30, 2011, plus any reductions made pursuant to section 19
17 of public act 09-1 of the June 19 special session, except that (A) for the
18 fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, any district with a number of resident
19 students for the school year commencing July 1, 2011, that is lower
20 than such district's number of resident students for the school year
21 commencing July 1, 2010, may reduce such district's budgeted
22 appropriation for education by the difference in number of resident
23 students for such school years multiplied by three thousand, provided
24 such reduction shall not exceed one-half of one per cent of the district's
25 budgeted appropriation for education for the fiscal year ending June
26 30, 2011, and (B) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, any district
27 that (i) does not maintain a high school and pays tuition to another
28 school district pursuant to section 10-33 for resident students to attend
29 high school in another district, and (ii) the number of resident students
30 attending high school for such district for the school year commencing
31 July 1, 2011, is lower than such district's number of resident students
32 attending high school for the school year commencing July 1, 2010,
33 may reduce such district's budgeted appropriation for education by
34 the difference in number of resident students attending high school for
35 such school years multiplied by the tuition paid per student pursuant
36 to section 10-33, provided such reduction shall not exceed one-half of
37 one per cent of the district's budgeted appropriation for education for
38 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011.

39 (2) Except as otherwise provided under the provisions of
40 subdivisions (3) [and (4)] to (5), inclusive, of this subsection, for the
41 fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, the budgeted appropriation for
42 education shall be not less than the budgeted appropriation for
43 education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, plus the amount of
44 any increase in the grant a town receives under the provisions of
45 subdivision (2) of subsection (d) of section 10-262h, as amended by this
46 act, except that (A) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, any district
47 with a number of resident students for the school year commencing
48 July 1, 2012, that is lower than such district's number of resident
49 students for the school year commencing July 1, 2011, may reduce such
50 district's budgeted appropriation for education for the fiscal year

51 ending June 30, 2013, by the difference in number of resident students
52 for such school years multiplied by three thousand, provided such
53 reduction shall not exceed one-half of one per cent of the district's
54 budgeted appropriation for education for the fiscal year ending June
55 30, [2012, and] 2013, (B) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, any
56 district that (i) does not maintain a high school and pays tuition to
57 another school district pursuant to section 10-33 for resident students
58 to attend high school in another district, and (ii) the number of resident
59 students attending high school for such district for the school year
60 commencing July 1, 2012, is lower than such district's number of
61 resident students attending high school for the school year
62 commencing July 1, 2011, may reduce such district's budgeted
63 appropriation for education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, by
64 the difference in number of resident students attending high school for
65 such school years multiplied by the tuition paid per student pursuant
66 to section 10-33, provided such reduction shall not exceed one-half of
67 one per cent of the district's budgeted appropriation for education for
68 the fiscal year ending June 30, [2012] 2013, and (C) for the fiscal year
69 ending June 30, 2013, any district that realizes new and documentable
70 savings through increased intradistrict efficiencies approved by the
71 Commissioner of Education or through regional collaboration or
72 cooperative arrangements pursuant to section 10-158a may reduce
73 such district's budgeted appropriation for education for the fiscal year
74 ending June 30, 2013, in an amount equal to half of the savings
75 experienced as a result of such intradistrict efficiencies, regional
76 collaboration or cooperative arrangement, provided such reduction
77 shall not exceed one-half of one per cent of the district's budgeted
78 appropriation for education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013.

79 (3) The Commissioner of Education may permit a district to reduce
80 its budgeted appropriation for education for the fiscal year ending
81 June 30, 2012, or June 30, 2013, in an amount determined by the
82 commissioner if such district has permanently ceased operations and
83 closed one or more schools in the district due to declining enrollment
84 at such closed school or schools in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011,
85 June 30, 2012, or June 30, 2013.

86 (4) [No] Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (5) of this
87 subsection, no town shall be eligible to reduce its budgeted
88 appropriation for education for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2012,
89 and June 30, 2013, pursuant to this subsection if (A) the school district
90 for the town is in its third year or more of being identified as in need of
91 improvement pursuant to section 10-223e, as amended by this act, and
92 (i) has failed to make adequate yearly progress in mathematics or
93 reading at the whole district level, or (ii) has satisfied the requirements
94 for adequate yearly progress in mathematics or reading pursuant to
95 Section 1111(b)(2)(I) of Subpart 1 of Part A of Title I of the No Child
96 Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-110, as amended from time to time, or (B) the
97 school district for the town (i) has been identified as in need of
98 improvement pursuant to section 10-223e, as amended by this act, and
99 (ii) has a poverty rate greater than ten per cent. For purposes of this
100 subparagraph, "poverty rate" means the quotient of the number of
101 related children ages five to seventeen, inclusive, in families in poverty
102 in a school district, divided by the total school age population of such
103 school district based on the 2009 population estimate produced by the
104 Bureau of Census of the United States Department of Commerce.

105 (5) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, the budgeted
106 appropriation for a town designated as an alliance district, as defined
107 in section 3 of this act, shall be not less than the sum of (A) the
108 budgeted appropriation for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, and
109 (B) the amount necessary to meet the minimum local funding
110 percentage, as defined in section 3 of this act, except the commissioner
111 may permit a town designated as an alliance district to reduce its
112 budgeted appropriation for education if such town can demonstrate
113 that its local contribution for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, has
114 increased when compared to the local contribution used in
115 determining its local funding percentage, as defined in section 3 of this
116 act.

117 (g) (1) Except as provided for in subdivisions (2), (3) and (4) of this
118 subsection, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2008, to June 30, 2012,
119 inclusive, the percentage of the increase in aid pursuant to this section

120 applicable under subsection (d) of this section shall be the average of
121 the results of (A) (i) a town's current program expenditures per
122 resident student pursuant to subdivision (36) of section 10-262f,
123 subtracted from the highest current program expenditures per resident
124 student in this state, (ii) divided by the difference between the highest
125 current program expenditures per resident student in this state and the
126 lowest current program expenditures per resident student in this state,
127 (iii) multiplied by thirty per cent, (iv) plus fifty percentage points, (B)
128 (i) a town's wealth pursuant to subdivision (26) of section 10-262f,
129 subtracted from the wealth of the town with the highest wealth of all
130 towns in this state, (ii) divided by the difference between the wealth of
131 the town with the highest wealth of all towns in this state and the
132 wealth of the town with the lowest wealth of all towns in this state, (iii)
133 multiplied by thirty per cent, (iv) plus fifty percentage points, and (C)
134 (i) a town's grant mastery percentage pursuant to subdivision (12) of
135 section 10-262f, subtracted from one, subtracted from one minus the
136 grant mastery percentage of the town with the highest grant mastery
137 percentage in this state, (ii) divided by the difference between one
138 minus the grant mastery percentage of the town with the highest grant
139 mastery percentage in this state and one minus the grant mastery
140 percentage of the town with the lowest grant mastery percentage in
141 this state, (iii) multiplied by thirty per cent, (iv) plus fifty percentage
142 points.

143 (2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, any town whose school
144 district is in its third year or more of being identified as in need of
145 improvement pursuant to section 10-223e, as amended by this act, and
146 has failed to make adequate yearly progress in mathematics or reading
147 at the whole district level, the percentage determined pursuant to
148 subdivision (1) of this subsection for such town shall be increased by
149 an additional twenty percentage points.

150 (3) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, any town whose school
151 district is in its third year or more of being identified as in need of
152 improvement pursuant to section 10-223e, as amended by this act, and
153 has failed to make adequate yearly progress in mathematics or reading

154 at the whole district level, the percentage of the increase in aid
155 pursuant to this section applicable under subsection (d) of this section
156 shall be the percentage of the increase determined under subdivision
157 (1) of this subsection for such town, plus twenty percentage points, or
158 eighty per cent, whichever is greater.

159 (4) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, for the fiscal year
160 ending June 30, 2008, and each fiscal year thereafter, any town that (A)
161 is a member of a regional school district that serves only grades seven
162 to twelve, inclusive, or grades nine to twelve, inclusive, (B)
163 appropriates at least the minimum percentage of increase in aid
164 pursuant to the provisions of this section, and (C) has a reduced
165 assessment from the previous fiscal year for students enrolled in such
166 regional school district, excluding debt service for such students, shall
167 be considered to be in compliance with the provisions of this section.

168 (5) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, charter,
169 special act or home rule ordinance, on or before September 15, 2007,
170 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, a town may request the
171 Commissioner of Education to defer a portion of the town's increase in
172 aid over the prior fiscal year pursuant to this section to be expended in
173 the subsequent fiscal year. If the commissioner approves such request,
174 the deferred amount shall be credited to the increase in aid for the
175 fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, rather than the fiscal year ending June
176 30, 2008. Such funds shall be expended in the fiscal year ending June
177 30, 2009, in accordance with the provisions of this section. In no case
178 shall a town be allowed to defer increases in aid required to be spent
179 for education as a result of failure to make adequate yearly progress in
180 accordance with the provisions of subdivisions (2) and (3) of this
181 subsection.

182 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2012*) (a) As used in this section and
183 section 10-262i of the general statutes, as amended by this act:

184 (1) "Alliance district" means a school district that is in a town that is
185 among the towns with the lowest district performance indices.

186 (2) "District performance index" means the sum of the district
187 subject performance indices for mathematics, reading, writing and
188 science.

189 (3) "District subject performance index for mathematics" means
190 thirty per cent multiplied by the sum of the mastery test data of record,
191 as defined in section 10-262f of the general statutes, for a district for
192 mathematics weighted as follows: (A) Zero for the percentage of
193 students scoring below basic, (B) twenty-five per cent for the
194 percentage of students scoring at basic, (C) fifty per cent for the
195 percentage of students scoring at proficient, (D) seventy-five per cent
196 for the percentage of students scoring at goal, and (E) one hundred per
197 cent for the percentage of students scoring at advanced.

198 (4) "District subject performance index for reading" means thirty per
199 cent multiplied by the sum of the mastery test data of record, as
200 defined in section 10-262f of the general statutes, for a district for
201 reading weighted as follows: (A) Zero for the percentage of students
202 scoring below basic, (B) twenty-five per cent for the percentage of
203 students scoring at basic, (C) fifty per cent for the percentage of
204 students scoring at proficient, (D) seventy-five per cent for the
205 percentage of students scoring at goal, and (E) one hundred per cent
206 for the percentage of students scoring at advanced.

207 (5) "District subject performance index for writing" means thirty per
208 cent multiplied by the sum of the mastery test data of record, as
209 defined in section 10-262f of the general statutes, for a district for
210 writing weighted as follows: (A) Zero for the percentage of students
211 scoring below basic, (B) twenty-five per cent for the percentage of
212 students scoring at basic, (C) fifty per cent for the percentage of
213 students scoring at proficient, (D) seventy-five per cent for the
214 percentage of students scoring at goal, and (E) one hundred per cent
215 for the percentage of students scoring at advanced.

216 (6) "District subject performance index for science" means ten per
217 cent multiplied by the sum of the mastery test data of record, as
218 defined in section 10-262f of the general statutes, for a district for

219 science weighted as follows: (A) Zero for the percentage of students
220 scoring below basic, (B) twenty-five per cent for the percentage of
221 students scoring at basic, (C) fifty per cent for the percentage of
222 students scoring at proficient, (D) seventy-five per cent for the
223 percentage of students scoring at goal, and (E) one hundred per cent
224 for the percentage of students scoring at advanced.

225 (7) "Local funding percentage" means that for the fiscal year two
226 years prior to the fiscal year in which the grant is to be paid pursuant
227 to section 10-262i of the general statutes, as amended by this act, the
228 number obtained by dividing (A) total current educational
229 expenditures less (i) expenditures for (I) land and capital building
230 expenditures, and equipment otherwise supported by a state grant
231 pursuant to chapter 173 of the general statutes, including debt service,
232 (II) health services for nonpublic school children, and (III) adult
233 education, (ii) expenditures directly attributable to (I) state grants
234 received by or on behalf of school districts, except those grants for the
235 categories of expenditures described in subparagraphs (A)(i)(I) to
236 (A)(i)(III), inclusive, of this subdivision, and except grants received
237 pursuant to chapter 173 of the general statutes, (II) federal grants
238 received by or on behalf of local or regional boards of education,
239 except those grants for adult education and federal impact aid, and
240 (III) receipts from the operation of child nutrition services and student
241 activities services, (iii) expenditures of funds from private and other
242 sources, and (iv) tuition received by the district for the education of
243 nonresident students, by (B) total current educational expenditures less
244 expenditures for (i) land and capital building expenditures, and
245 equipment otherwise supported by a state grant pursuant to chapter
246 173 of the general statutes, including debt service, (ii) health services
247 for nonpublic school children, and (iii) adult education.

248 (8) "Minimum local funding percentage" means (A) for the fiscal
249 year ending June 30, 2013, twenty per cent, (B) for the fiscal year
250 ending June 30, 2014, twenty-two and one-half per cent, (C) for the
251 fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, twenty-five per cent, and (D) for the
252 fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, and each fiscal year thereafter, thirty

253 per cent.

254 (9) "Educational reform district" means a school district that is in a
255 town that is among the ten lowest district performance indices when
256 all towns are ranked highest to lowest in district performance indices
257 scores.

258 (b) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, the number of alliance
259 districts shall not exceed thirty school districts. Any school district
260 designated as an alliance district shall be so designated for a period of
261 five years, except the Commissioner of Education may remove such
262 designation from a school district prior to July first of the fiscal year
263 following a determination by the commissioner that such school
264 district is in violation of the provisions of subsection (d) of this section.
265 On or before June 30, 2016, the Department of Education shall
266 determine if there are any additional alliance districts.

267 (c) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, and each fiscal year
268 thereafter, the Comptroller shall withhold from a town designated as
269 an alliance district any increase in funds received over the amount the
270 town received for the prior fiscal year pursuant to section 10-262h of
271 the general statutes, as amended by this act. The Comptroller shall
272 transfer such funds to the Commissioner of Education.

273 (2) Upon receipt of an application pursuant to subsection (d) of this
274 section, the Commissioner of Education may award such funds to the
275 local or regional board of education for an alliance district on the
276 condition that such funds shall be expended in accordance with the
277 plan described in subsection (d) of this section and any guidelines
278 developed by the State Board of Education for such funds. Such funds
279 shall be used to improve student achievement in such alliance district
280 and to offset any other local education costs approved by the
281 commissioner.

282 (d) The local or regional board of education for a town designated
283 as an alliance district may apply to the Commissioner of Education, at
284 such time and in such manner as the commissioner prescribes, to

285 receive any increase in funds received over the amount the town
286 received for the prior fiscal year pursuant to section 10-262h of the
287 general statutes, as amended by this act. Applications pursuant to this
288 subsection shall include objectives and performance targets and a plan
289 that may include, but not be limited to, the following: (1) A tiered
290 system of interventions for the schools under the jurisdiction of such
291 board based on the needs of such schools, (2) ways to strengthen the
292 foundational programs in reading to ensure reading mastery in
293 kindergarten to grade three, inclusive, with a focus on standards and
294 instruction, proper use of data, intervention strategies, current
295 information for teachers, parental engagement, and teacher
296 professional development, (3) additional learning time, including
297 extended school day or school year programming administered by
298 school personnel or external partners, (4) a talent strategy that
299 includes, but is not limited to, teacher and school leader recruitment
300 and assignment, career ladder policies that draw upon guidelines for a
301 model teacher evaluation program adopted by the State Board of
302 Education, pursuant to section 10-151b of the general statutes, as
303 amended by this act, and adopted by each local or regional board of
304 education. Such talent strategy may include provisions that
305 demonstrate increased ability to attract, retain, promote and bolster the
306 performance of staff in accordance with performance evaluation
307 findings and, in the case of new personnel, other indicators of
308 effectiveness, (5) training for school leaders and other staff on new
309 teacher evaluation models, (6) provisions for the cooperation and
310 coordination with early childhood education providers to ensure
311 alignment with district expectations for student entry into
312 kindergarten, (7) provisions for the cooperation and coordination with
313 other governmental and community programs to ensure that students
314 receive adequate support and wraparound services, including
315 community school models, and (8) any additional categories or goals
316 as determined by the commissioner. Such plan shall demonstrate
317 collaboration with key stakeholders, as identified by the commissioner,
318 with the goal of achieving efficiencies and the alignment of intent and
319 practice of current programs with conditional programs identified in

320 this subsection. The commissioner may require changes in any plan
321 submitted by a local or regional board of education before the
322 commissioner approves an application under this subsection.

323 (e) The State Board of Education may develop guidelines and
324 criteria for the administration of such funds under this section.

325 (f) The commissioner may withhold such funds if the local or
326 regional board of education fails to comply with the provisions of this
327 subsection. The commissioner may renew such funding if the local or
328 regional board of education provides evidence that the school district
329 of such board is achieving the objectives and performance targets
330 approved by the commissioner stated in the plan submitted under this
331 section.

332 (g) Any local or regional board of education receiving funding
333 under this section shall submit an annual expenditure report to the
334 commissioner on such form and in such manner as requested by the
335 commissioner. The commissioner shall determine if (A) the local or
336 regional board of education shall repay any funds not expended in
337 accordance with the approved application, or (B) such funding should
338 be reduced in a subsequent fiscal year up to an amount equal to the
339 amount that the commissioner determines is out of compliance with
340 the provisions of this subsection.

341 (h) Any balance remaining for each local or regional board of
342 education at the end of any fiscal year shall be carried forward for such
343 local or regional board of education for the next fiscal year.

344 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2012*) (a) The Department of
345 Education shall administer, within available appropriations, an annual
346 competitive grant program to assist local and regional school boards of
347 education in improving student performance through the strategies
348 described in subsection (d) of section 3 of this act. The department may
349 award an annual grant to a local or regional board of education in an
350 amount equal to or greater than fifty thousand dollars, but not
351 exceeding seven hundred fifty thousand dollars.

352 (b) Any local or regional board of education may apply, at such time
353 and in such manner as the department prescribes, to the department
354 for a competitive grant. A local or regional board of education for a
355 town designated as an alliance district, as defined in section 3 of this
356 act, may submit the plan approved by the Commissioner of Education
357 pursuant to subsection (d) of section 3 of this act, in lieu of the
358 application prescribed by the commissioner.

359 (c) The department may develop guidelines and grant criteria as it
360 deems necessary to administer the competitive grant program under
361 this section.

362 (d) Any local or regional board of education receiving a competitive
363 grant award under this section shall submit an expenditure report to
364 the department on such form and in such manner as the department
365 prescribes. The department shall determine if the local or regional
366 board of education shall (1) repay any unexpended funds at the close
367 of the program for which the grant was awarded, or (2) repay the
368 department an amount that the department determines is out of
369 compliance with the provisions of such board's approved application.

370 (e) Grants awarded pursuant to this subdivision shall be expended
371 for educational purposes only and shall not be used to supplant
372 federal, state or local funding for educational purposes.

373 (f) A local or regional board of education may accept matching
374 funds from a nonprofit organization that is exempt from taxation
375 under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any
376 subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States,
377 as from time to time amended, for purposes of the competitive grant
378 program, provided such matching funds shall in no way limit the
379 scope of programs funded by grants under this section.

380 Sec. 5. Section 10-66ee of the 2012 supplement to the general statutes
381 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
382 *1, 2012*):

383 (a) For the purposes of [education] equalization aid under section
384 10-262h a student enrolled (1) in a local charter school shall be
385 considered a student enrolled in the school district in which such
386 student resides, and (2) in a state charter school shall not be considered
387 a student enrolled in the school district in which such student resides.

388 (b) (1) The local board of education of the school district in which a
389 student enrolled in a local charter school resides shall pay, annually, in
390 accordance with its charter, to the fiscal authority for the charter school
391 for each such student the amount specified in its charter, including the
392 reasonable special education costs of students requiring special
393 education. The board of education shall be eligible for reimbursement
394 for such special education costs pursuant to section 10-76g.

395 (2) The local or regional board of education of the school district in
396 which the local charter school is located shall be responsible for the
397 financial support of such local charter school at a level that is at least
398 equal to the product of (A) the per pupil cost for the prior fiscal year,
399 less the reimbursement pursuant to section 10-76g for the current fiscal
400 year, and (B) the number of students attending such local charter
401 school in the current fiscal year. As used in this subdivision, "per pupil
402 cost" means, for a local or regional board of education, the quotient of
403 the net current expenditures, as defined in subdivision (3) of section
404 10-261, divided by the average daily membership, as defined in
405 subdivision (2) of section 10-261, of such local or regional board of
406 education.

407 (c) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, and each fiscal year
408 thereafter, the State Board of Education may approve, within available
409 appropriations, a grant to any local charter school described in
410 subsection (b) of section 7 of this act in an amount not to exceed three
411 thousand dollars for each student enrolled in such a local charter
412 school. Such grant awards shall be paid as follows: Twenty-five per
413 cent of the amount not later than July fifteenth and September fifteenth
414 based on estimated student enrollment on May first, and twenty-five
415 per cent of the amount not later than January fifteenth and the

416 remaining amount not later than April fifteenth, each based on student
417 enrollment on October first. For purposes of this subsection, such grant
418 shall be an equalization aid grant under section 10-262h, as amended
419 by this act.

420 [(c)] (d) (1) The state shall pay in accordance with this subsection, to
421 the fiscal authority for a state charter school for each student enrolled
422 in such school, for the fiscal year ending [June 30, 2006, seven
423 thousand six hundred twenty-five dollars, for the fiscal year ending
424 June 30, 2007, eight thousand dollars, for the fiscal year ending June 30,
425 2008, eight thousand six hundred fifty dollars, for the fiscal years
426 ending June 30, 2009, to June 30, 2011, inclusive, nine thousand three
427 hundred dollars, and for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, and each
428 fiscal year thereafter, nine thousand four hundred dollars] June 30,
429 2013, and each fiscal year thereafter, ten thousand five hundred
430 dollars. Such payments shall be made as follows: Twenty-five per cent
431 of the amount not later than July fifteenth and September fifteenth
432 based on estimated student enrollment on May first, and twenty-five
433 per cent of the amount not later than January fifteenth and the
434 remaining amount not later than April fifteenth, each based on student
435 enrollment on October first. [If the total amount appropriated for
436 grants pursuant to this subdivision exceeds eight thousand six
437 hundred fifty dollars per student for the fiscal year ending June 30,
438 2008, and exceeds nine thousand three hundred dollars for the fiscal
439 year ending June 30, 2009, the amount of such grants payable per
440 student shall be increased proportionately, except that such per
441 student increase shall not exceed seventy dollars. Any amount of such
442 appropriation remaining after such per student increase may be used
443 by the Department of Education for supplemental grants to
444 interdistrict magnet schools pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection
445 (c) of section 10-264l, to pay for a portion of the audit required
446 pursuant to section 10-66ll, to pay for expenses incurred by the
447 Department of Education to ensure the continuity of a charter school
448 where required by a court of competent jurisdiction and, in
449 consultation with the Secretary of the Office of Policy and
450 Management, to pay expenses incurred in the creation of a school

451 pursuant to section 10-74g. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005,
452 such increase shall be limited to one hundred ten dollars per student.]

453 (2) In the case of a student identified as requiring special education,
454 the school district in which the student resides shall: (A) Hold the
455 planning and placement team meeting for such student and shall
456 invite representatives from the charter school to participate in such
457 meeting; and (B) pay the state charter school, on a quarterly basis, an
458 amount equal to the difference between the reasonable cost of
459 educating such student and the sum of the amount received by the
460 state charter school for such student pursuant to subdivision (1) of this
461 subsection and amounts received from other state, federal, local or
462 private sources calculated on a per pupil basis. Such school district
463 shall be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to section 10-76g. The
464 charter school a student requiring special education attends shall be
465 responsible for ensuring that such student receives the services
466 mandated by the student's individualized education program whether
467 such services are provided by the charter school or by the school
468 district in which the student resides.

469 (3) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, and each fiscal year
470 thereafter, the local or regional board of education of the school district
471 in which a state charter school is located may submit a request to the
472 Department of Education, in a manner prescribed by the department,
473 to use student performance data from any state charter school located
474 in the school district of such local or regional board of education if
475 such board annually pays to the fiscal authority for a state charter
476 school one thousand dollars for each student who resides in such
477 school district and is enrolled in such state charter school on October
478 first of the current school year. Such student performance data shall be
479 used for the exclusive purpose of calculating the school district's
480 performance in accordance with the state-wide performance
481 management and support plan prepared pursuant to subdivision (2) of
482 subsection (b) of section 10-223e, as amended by this act. If any such
483 board of education fails to pay under this subdivision, the
484 Commissioner of Education may withhold from such board's town or

485 towns a sum payable under section 10-262i, as amended by this act, in
486 an amount not to exceed the amount of the unpaid amount to the state
487 charter school and pay such amount to such fiscal authority for the
488 charter school as a supplementary grant. Any local or regional board
489 of education permitted to use such student performance data shall do
490 so for a period of two school years, and such board shall provide
491 notice to the department not later than six months prior to the
492 conclusion of such two-year period that such board wishes to renew or
493 terminate such use of such student performance data. The State Board
494 of Education shall issue guidelines regarding the required elements of,
495 and the standards governing review of, any such request.

496 [(d) On or before October fifteenth of the fiscal years beginning July
497 1, 2001, and July 1, 2002, the Commissioner of Education shall
498 determine if the enrollment in the program for the fiscal year is below
499 the number of students for which funds were appropriated. If the
500 commissioner determines that the enrollment is below such number,
501 the additional funds shall not lapse but shall be used by the
502 commissioner for (1) grants for interdistrict cooperative programs
503 pursuant to section 10-74d, (2) grants for open choice programs
504 pursuant to section 10-266aa, or (3) grants for interdistrict magnet
505 schools pursuant to section 10-264l.]

506 (e) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, [to the
507 contrary,] if at the end of a fiscal year amounts received by a state
508 charter school, pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection [(c)] (d) of this
509 section, are unexpended, the charter school (1) may use, for the
510 expenses of the charter school for the following fiscal year, up to ten
511 per cent of such amounts, and (2) may (A) create a reserve fund to
512 finance a specific capital or equipment purchase or another specified
513 project as may be approved by the commissioner, and (B) deposit into
514 such fund up to five per cent of such amounts.

515 (f) The local or regional board of education of the school district in
516 which the charter school is located shall provide transportation
517 services for students of the charter school who reside in such school

518 district pursuant to section 10-273a unless the charter school makes
519 other arrangements for such transportation. Any local or regional
520 board of education may provide transportation services to a student
521 attending a charter school outside of the district in which the student
522 resides and, if it elects to provide such transportation, shall be
523 reimbursed pursuant to section 10-266m for the reasonable costs of
524 such transportation. Any local or regional board of education
525 providing transportation services under this subsection may suspend
526 such services in accordance with the provisions of section 10-233c. The
527 parent or guardian of any student denied the transportation services
528 required to be provided pursuant to this subsection may appeal such
529 denial in the manner provided in sections 10-186 and 10-187.

530 (g) Charter schools shall be eligible to the same extent as boards of
531 education for any grant for special education, competitive state grants
532 and grants pursuant to sections 10-17g and 10-266w.

533 (h) If the commissioner finds that any charter school uses a grant
534 under this section for a purpose that is inconsistent with the provisions
535 of this part, the commissioner may require repayment of such grant to
536 the state.

537 (i) Charter schools shall receive, in accordance with federal law and
538 regulations, any federal funds available for the education of any pupils
539 attending public schools.

540 (j) The governing council of a charter school may (1) contract or
541 enter into other agreements for purposes of administrative or other
542 support services, transportation, plant services or leasing facilities or
543 equipment, and (2) receive and expend private funds or public funds,
544 including funds from local or regional boards of education and funds
545 received by local charter schools for out-of-district students, for school
546 purposes.

547 (k) If in any fiscal year, more than one new state or local charter
548 school is approved pursuant to section 10-66bb, as amended by this
549 act, and is awaiting funding pursuant to the provisions of this section,

550 the State Board of Education shall determine which school is funded
551 first based on a consideration of the following factors in order of
552 importance as follows: (1) The quality of the proposed program as
553 measured against the criteria required in the charter school application
554 process pursuant to section 10-66bb, as amended by this act, (2)
555 whether the applicant has a demonstrated record of academic success
556 by students, (3) whether the school is located in a school district with a
557 demonstrated need for student improvement, and (4) whether the
558 applicant has plans concerning the preparedness of facilities, staffing
559 and outreach to students.

560 (l) Within available appropriations, the state may provide a grant in
561 an amount not to exceed seventy-five thousand dollars to any newly
562 approved state charter school that assists the state in meeting the goals
563 of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A.
564 O'Neill, et al., as determined by the Commissioner of Education, for
565 start-up costs associated with the new charter school program.

566 (m) Charter schools may, to the same extent as local and regional
567 boards of education, enter into cooperative arrangements as described
568 in section 10-158a, provided such arrangements are approved by the
569 Commissioner of Education. Any state charter school participating in a
570 cooperative arrangement under this subsection shall maintain its
571 status as a state charter school and not be excused from any obligations
572 pursuant to sections 10-66aa to 10-66ll, inclusive, as amended by this
573 act.

574 (n) Grant funding pursuant to this section shall be considered an
575 equalization aid grant under section 10-262h, as amended by this act.

576 Sec. 6. Section 10-66ll of the general statutes is repealed and the
577 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):

578 Annually, the commissioner shall randomly select one state charter
579 school, as defined in subdivision (3) of section 10-66aa, to be subject to
580 a comprehensive financial audit conducted by an auditor selected by
581 the Commissioner of Education. Except as provided for in subsection

582 [(c)] (d) of section 10-66ee, as amended by this act, the charter school
583 shall be responsible for all costs associated with the audit conducted
584 pursuant to the provisions of this section.

585 Sec. 7. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2012*) (a) For the fiscal year ending
586 June 30, 2013, and each fiscal year thereafter, the Department of
587 Education may award, within available appropriations, a grant of up
588 to five hundred thousand dollars to assist with the start-up costs
589 associated with establishment of a local charter school pursuant to
590 subsection (b) of this section.

591 (b) In order to be eligible for a grant under this section, an applicant
592 for a grant shall submit an application to the Commissioner of
593 Education, pursuant to section 10-66bb of the general statutes, as
594 amended by this act, for the establishment of a local charter school to
595 be established on or after July 1, 2012, and such application shall
596 satisfy one of the following conditions: (1) Such applicant has high
597 quality, feasible strategies or a record of success in serving students
598 from among the following populations: (A) Students with histories of
599 low academic performance, (B) students who receive free or reduced
600 price school lunches, (C) students with histories of behavioral and
601 social difficulties, (D) students eligible for special education services,
602 or (E) students who are English language learners; or (2) such
603 applicant has a high quality, feasible plan for turning around existing
604 schools that have demonstrated consistently substandard student
605 performance, or a record of success in turning around such schools.
606 The department shall determine whether such applicant satisfies the
607 provisions of subdivision (1) or (2) of this subsection.

608 (c) Grant applications shall be submitted to the department at such
609 time and in such manner as the department prescribes. Each applicant
610 receiving a grant award under this section shall submit, at such time
611 and in such form as the department prescribes, any reports and
612 financial statements required by the department. If the department
613 finds that any grant awarded pursuant to this section is being used for
614 purposes that are not in conformity with the purposes of this section,

615 the department may require the repayment of the grant to the state.

616 (d) Any unexpended funds appropriated to the Department of
617 Education for purposes of this section shall be available for
618 redistribution as a grant in the next fiscal year.

619 (e) The department may develop guidelines and grant criteria as it
620 deems necessary to administer the grant program under this section.

621 (f) For purposes of this section, such grant shall be an equalization
622 aid grant under section 10-262h of the general statutes, as amended by
623 this act.

624 Sec. 8. Section 10-66bb of the 2012 supplement to the general
625 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
626 (*Effective July 1, 2012*):

627 (a) On and after July 1, 1997, the State Board of Education may grant
628 charters for local and state charter schools in accordance with this
629 section.

630 (b) Any person, association, corporation, organization or other
631 entity, public or independent institution of higher education, local or
632 regional board of education or two or more boards of education
633 cooperatively, or regional educational service center may apply to the
634 Commissioner of Education, at such time and in such manner as the
635 commissioner prescribes, to establish a charter school, provided no
636 nonpublic elementary or secondary school may be established as a
637 charter school and no parent or group of parents providing home
638 instruction may establish a charter school for such instruction.

639 (c) [The] On and after July 1, 2012, the State Board of Education shall
640 review, annually, all applications and grant charters, in accordance
641 with [subsection] subsections (e) and (f) of this section, for a local or
642 state charter school located in a town that has one or more schools that
643 have been designated as a commissioner's network school, pursuant to
644 section 17 of this act, at the time of such application, or a town that has
645 been designated as a low achieving school district, pursuant to section

646 10-223e, as amended by this act, at the time of such application. (1)
647 Except as provided for in subdivision (2) of this subsection, no state
648 charter school shall enroll (A) (i) more than two hundred fifty
649 students, or (ii) in the case of a kindergarten to grade eight, inclusive,
650 school, more than three hundred students, or (B) twenty-five per cent
651 of the enrollment of the school district in which the state charter school
652 is to be located, whichever is less. (2) In the case of a state charter
653 school found by the State Board of Education to have a demonstrated
654 record of achievement, said board shall, upon application by such
655 school to said board, waive the provisions of subdivision (1) of this
656 subsection for such school. (3) The State Board of Education shall give
657 preference to applicants for charter schools (A) whose primary
658 purpose is the establishment of education programs designed to serve
659 one or more of the following student populations: (i) Students with a
660 history of low academic performance, (ii) students who receive free or
661 reduced priced lunches pursuant to federal law and regulations, (iii)
662 students with a history of behavioral and social difficulties, (iv)
663 students identified as requiring special education, or (v) students who
664 are English language learners, or (vi) students of a single gender; (B)
665 whose primary purpose is to improve the academic performance of an
666 existing school that has consistently demonstrated substandard
667 academic performance, as determined by the Commissioner of
668 Education; (C) that will serve students who reside in a priority school
669 district pursuant to section 10-266p; [or] (D) that will serve students
670 who reside in a district in which seventy-five per cent or more of the
671 enrolled students are members of racial or ethnic minorities; [and to
672 applicants for state charter schools that] (E) that demonstrate highly
673 credible and specific strategies to attract, enroll and retain students
674 from among the populations described in subparagraph (A)(i) to
675 (A)(vi), inclusive, of this subdivision; or (F) that, in the case of an
676 applicant for a state charter school, such state charter school will be
677 located at a work-site or [that are institutions] such applicant is an
678 institution of higher education. In determining whether to grant a
679 charter, the State Board of Education shall consider the effect of the
680 proposed charter school on the reduction of racial, ethnic and

681 economic isolation in the region in which it is to be located, the
682 regional distribution of charter schools in the state and the potential of
683 over-concentration of charter schools within a school district or in
684 contiguous school districts.

685 (d) Applications pursuant to this section shall include a description
686 of: (1) The mission, purpose and any specialized focus of the proposed
687 charter school; (2) the interest in the community for the establishment
688 of the charter school; (3) the school governance and procedures for the
689 establishment of a governing council that (A) includes (i) teachers and
690 parents and guardians of students enrolled in the school, and (ii) the
691 chairperson of the local or regional board of education of the town in
692 which the charter school is located and which has jurisdiction over a
693 school that resembles the approximate grade configuration of the
694 charter school, or the designee of such chairperson, provided such
695 designee is a member of the board of education or the superintendent
696 of schools for the school district, and (B) is responsible for the
697 oversight of charter school operations, provided no member or
698 employee of the governing council may have a personal or financial
699 interest in the assets, real or personal, of the school; (4) the financial
700 plan for operation of the school, provided no application fees or other
701 fees for attendance, except as provided in this section, may be charged;
702 (5) the educational program, instructional methodology and services to
703 be offered to students; (6) the number and qualifications of teachers
704 and administrators to be employed in the school; (7) the organization
705 of the school in terms of the ages or grades to be taught and the total
706 estimated enrollment of the school; (8) the student admission criteria
707 and procedures to (A) ensure effective public information, (B) ensure
708 open access on a space available basis, (C) promote a diverse student
709 body, and (D) ensure that the school complies with the provisions of
710 section 10-15c and that it does not discriminate on the basis of
711 disability, athletic performance or proficiency in the English language,
712 provided the school may limit enrollment to a particular grade level or
713 specialized educational focus and [, if there is not space available for
714 all students seeking enrollment,] the school may give preference to
715 siblings but shall otherwise determine enrollment by a lottery, in

716 accordance with the provisions of subsection (j) of this section, except
717 the State Board of Education may waive the requirements for such
718 enrollment lottery pursuant to subsection (k) of this section; (9) a
719 means to assess student performance that includes participation in
720 state-wide mastery examinations pursuant to chapter 163c; (10)
721 procedures for teacher evaluation and professional development for
722 teachers and administrators; (11) the provision of school facilities,
723 pupil transportation and student health and welfare services; (12)
724 procedures to encourage involvement by parents and guardians of
725 enrolled students in student learning, school activities and school
726 decision-making; (13) procedures to document efforts to increase the
727 racial and ethnic diversity of staff; [and] (14) a five-year plan to sustain
728 the maintenance and operation of the school; and (15) a student
729 recruitment and retention plan that shall include, but not be limited to,
730 a clear description of a plan and the capacity of the school to attract,
731 enroll and retain students from among the populations described in
732 subparagraph (A)(i) to (A)(vi), inclusive, of subdivision (3) of
733 subsection (c) of this section. Subject to the provisions of subsection (b)
734 of section 10-66dd, an application may include, or a charter school may
735 file, requests to waive provisions of the general statutes and
736 regulations not required by sections 10-66aa to 10-66ff, inclusive, as
737 amended by this act, and which are within the jurisdiction of the State
738 Board of Education.

739 (e) An application for the establishment of a local charter school
740 shall be submitted to the local or regional board of education of the
741 school district in which the local charter school is to be located for
742 approval pursuant to this subsection. The local or regional board of
743 education shall: (1) Review the application; (2) hold a public hearing in
744 the school district on such application; (3) survey teachers and parents
745 in the school district to determine if there is sufficient interest in the
746 establishment and operation of the local charter school; and (4) vote on
747 a complete application not later than sixty days after the date of receipt
748 of such application. Such board of education may approve the
749 application by a majority vote of the members of the board present and
750 voting at a regular or special meeting of the board called for such

751 purpose. If the application is approved, the board shall forward the
752 application to the State Board of Education. The State Board of
753 Education shall vote on the application not later than seventy-five days
754 after the date of receipt of such application. Subject to the provisions of
755 subsection (c) of this section, the State Board of Education may
756 approve the application and grant the charter for the local charter
757 school or reject such application by a majority vote of the members of
758 the state board present and voting at a regular or special meeting of
759 the state board called for such purpose. The State Board of Education
760 may condition the opening of such school on the school's meeting
761 certain conditions determined by the Commissioner of Education to be
762 necessary and may authorize the commissioner to release the charter
763 when the commissioner determines such conditions are met. The state
764 board may grant the charter for the local charter school for a period of
765 time of up to five years and may allow the applicant to delay its
766 opening for a period of up to one school year in order for the applicant
767 to fully prepare to provide appropriate instructional services.

768 (f) An application for the establishment of a state charter school
769 shall be (1) submitted to the State Board of Education for approval in
770 accordance with the provisions of this subsection, and (2) filed with the
771 local or regional board of education in the school district in which the
772 charter school is to be located. The state board shall: (A) Review such
773 application; (B) hold a public hearing on such application in the school
774 district in which such state charter school is to be located; (C) solicit
775 and review comments on the application from the local or regional
776 board of education for the school district in which such charter school
777 is to be located and from the local or regional boards of education for
778 school districts that are contiguous to the district in which such school
779 is to be located; and (D) vote on a complete application not later than
780 ninety days after the date of receipt of such application. The State
781 Board of Education may approve an application and grant the charter
782 for the state charter school by a majority vote of the members of the
783 state board present and voting at a regular or special meeting of the
784 state board called for such purpose. The State Board of Education may
785 condition the opening of such school on the school's meeting certain

786 conditions determined by the Commissioner of Education to be
787 necessary and may authorize the commissioner to release the charter
788 when the commissioner determines such conditions are met. Charters
789 shall be granted for a period of time of up to five years and may allow
790 the applicant to delay its opening for a period of up to one school year
791 in order for the applicant to fully prepare to provide appropriate
792 instructional services.

793 (g) Charters may be renewed, upon application, in accordance with
794 the provisions of this section for the granting of such charters. Upon
795 application for such renewal, the State Board of Education may
796 commission an independent appraisal of the performance of the
797 charter school that includes, but is not limited to, an evaluation of the
798 school's compliance with the provisions of this section. The State Board
799 of Education shall consider the results of any such appraisal in
800 determining whether to renew such charter. The State Board of
801 Education may deny an application for the renewal of a charter if (1)
802 student progress has not been sufficiently demonstrated, as
803 determined by the commissioner, (2) the governing council has not
804 been sufficiently responsible for the operation of the school or has
805 misused or spent public funds in a manner that is detrimental to the
806 educational interests of the students attending the charter school, [or]
807 (3) the school has not been in compliance with applicable laws and
808 regulations, or (4) the efforts of the school have been insufficient to
809 effectively attract, enroll and retain students from among the following
810 populations: (A) Students with a history of low academic performance,
811 (B) students who receive free or reduced priced lunches pursuant to
812 federal law and regulations, (C) students with a history of behavioral
813 and social difficulties, (D) students identified as requiring special
814 education, or (E) students who are English language learners. If the
815 State Board of Education does not renew a charter, it shall notify the
816 governing council of the charter school of the reasons for such
817 nonrenewal.

818 (h) The Commissioner of Education may at any time place a charter
819 school on probation if (1) the school has failed to (A) adequately

820 demonstrate student progress, as determined by the commissioner, (B)
821 comply with the terms of its charter or with applicable laws and
822 regulations, (C) achieve measurable progress in reducing racial, ethnic
823 and economic isolation, or (D) maintain its nonsectarian status, or (2)
824 the governing council has demonstrated an inability to provide
825 effective leadership to oversee the operation of the charter school or
826 has not ensured that public funds are expended prudently or in a
827 manner required by law. If a charter school is placed on probation, the
828 commissioner shall provide written notice to the charter school of the
829 reasons for such placement, not later than five days after the
830 placement, and shall require the charter school to file with the
831 Department of Education a corrective action plan acceptable to the
832 commissioner not later than thirty-five days from the date of such
833 placement. The charter school shall implement a corrective action plan
834 accepted by the commissioner not later than thirty days after the date
835 of such acceptance. The commissioner may impose any additional
836 terms of probation on the school that the commissioner deems
837 necessary to protect the educational or financial interests of the state.
838 The charter school shall comply with any such additional terms not
839 later than thirty days after the date of their imposition. The
840 commissioner shall determine the length of time of the probationary
841 period, which may be up to one year, provided the commissioner may
842 extend such period, for up to one additional year, if the commissioner
843 deems it necessary. In the event that the charter school does not file or
844 implement the corrective action plan within the required time period
845 or does not comply with any additional terms within the required time
846 period, the Commissioner of Education may withhold grant funds
847 from the school until the plan is fully implemented or the school
848 complies with the terms of probation, provided the commissioner may
849 extend the time period for such implementation and compliance for
850 good cause shown. Whenever a charter school is placed on probation,
851 the commissioner shall notify the parents or guardians of students
852 attending the school of the probationary status of the school and the
853 reasons for such status. During the term of probation, the
854 commissioner may require the school to file interim reports concerning

855 any matter the commissioner deems relevant to the probationary
856 status of the school, including financial reports or statements. No
857 charter school on probation may increase its student enrollment or
858 engage in the recruitment of new students without the consent of the
859 commissioner.

860 (i) The State Board of Education may revoke a charter if a charter
861 school has failed to: (1) Comply with the terms of probation, including
862 the failure to file or implement a corrective action plan; (2)
863 demonstrate satisfactory student progress, as determined by the
864 commissioner; (3) comply with the terms of its charter or applicable
865 laws and regulations; or (4) manage its public funds in a prudent or
866 legal manner. Unless an emergency exists, prior to revoking a charter,
867 the State Board of Education shall provide the governing council of the
868 charter school with a written notice of the reasons for the revocation,
869 including the identification of specific incidents of noncompliance with
870 the law, regulation or charter or other matters warranting revocation
871 of the charter. It shall also provide the governing council with the
872 opportunity to demonstrate compliance with all requirements for the
873 retention of its charter by providing the State Board of Education or a
874 subcommittee of the board, as determined by the State Board of
875 Education, with a written or oral presentation. Such presentation shall
876 include an opportunity for the governing council to present
877 documentary and testimonial evidence to refute the facts cited by the
878 State Board of Education for the proposed revocation or in justification
879 of its activities. Such opportunity shall not constitute a contested case
880 within the meaning of chapter 54. The State Board of Education shall
881 determine, not later than thirty days after the date of an oral
882 presentation or receipt of a written presentation, whether and when
883 the charter shall be revoked and notify the governing council of the
884 decision and the reasons therefor. A decision to revoke a charter shall
885 not constitute a final decision for purposes of chapter 54. In the event
886 an emergency exists in which the commissioner finds that there is
887 imminent harm to the students attending a charter school, the State
888 Board of Education may immediately revoke the charter of the school,
889 provided the notice concerning the reasons for the revocation is sent to

890 the governing council not later than ten days after the date of
891 revocation and the governing council is provided an opportunity to
892 make a presentation to the board not later than twenty days from the
893 date of such notice.

894 (j) Subject to the provisions of subdivision (8) of subsection (d) of
895 this section, each local and state charter school shall conduct an
896 enrollment lottery for students seeking enrollment in such local or
897 state charter school, except that such local or state charter school shall
898 not be required to conduct such enrollment lottery if such local or state
899 charter school has a specialized focus or theme, approved by the
900 Commissioner of Education, designed to serve a particular student
901 population. Any student who does not reside in the school district that
902 such local or state charter school is located may apply for enrollment in
903 such local or state charter school and the name of such student shall be
904 included in the enrollment lottery. Each student residing in the school
905 district where such local or state charter school is located and who is
906 enrolled in a grade served by such local or state charter school shall be
907 included in such enrollment lottery unless such student elects not to
908 participate in such enrollment lottery. The local or regional board of
909 education or the governing council of a charter school shall notify such
910 students of their eligibility status in such enrollment lottery at least
911 forty-five days prior to when such enrollment lottery is to be held. Any
912 student selected in such enrollment lottery may elect to not be enrolled
913 in such local or state charter school.

914 (k) (1) The governing council of a local or state charter school may
915 apply to the State Board of Education for a waiver of the requirements
916 of the enrollment lottery described in subsection (d) of this section,
917 provided such state or local charter school has as its primary purpose
918 the establishment of education programs designed to serve one or
919 more of the following populations: (A) Students with a history of low
920 academic performance, (B) students who receive free or reduced
921 priced lunches pursuant to federal law and regulations, (C) students
922 with a history of behavioral and social difficulties, (D) students
923 identified as requiring special education, (E) students who are English

924 language learners, or (F) students of a single gender.

925 (2) An enrollment lottery described in subdivision (8) of subsection
926 (d) of this section shall not be held for a local charter school that is
927 established at a school that is among the schools with a percentage
928 equal to or less than five per cent when all schools are ranked highest
929 to lowest in school performance index scores, as defined in section 10-
930 223e, as amended by this act.

931 Sec. 9. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Department of
932 Education shall develop and implement a uniform system of
933 accounting for school expenditures. Such uniform system of
934 accounting shall include a chart of accounts to be used at the school
935 and district level. Select measures shall be required at the individual
936 school level, as determined by the department.

937 (b) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, and each fiscal year
938 thereafter, each local or regional board of education, regional
939 educational service center and state charter school shall implement
940 such uniform system of accounting by completing and filing with the
941 department the chart of accounts and meet the provisions of section
942 10-227 of the general statutes.

943 (c) The Office of Policy and Management may annually audit the
944 chart of accounts for any local or regional board of education, regional
945 educational service center or state charter school.

946 Sec. 10. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Department of Education shall
947 study issues relating to small school districts. The department shall
948 consider (1) financial disincentives for any small district in which the
949 per pupil cost of the prior fiscal year exceeds the state average per
950 pupil cost of the prior fiscal year, such as a small district reduction
951 percentage, (2) financial incentives for small district consolidation, (3)
952 the regional bonus provisions described in section 10-262f of the
953 general statutes, (4) the effect of regional districts and cooperative
954 arrangements, as described in section 10-158a of the general statutes,
955 on bonus provisions as they relate to state reimbursement, and (5) the

956 minimum budget requirement, described in subsection (f) of section
957 10-262i of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

958 (b) On or before January 1, 2013, the department shall submit a
959 report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing
960 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
961 relating to education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-
962 4a of the general statutes.

963 (c) As used in this section:

964 (1) "Small district" means any local or regional board of education
965 with an average daily membership, as defined in section 10-261 of the
966 general statutes, of less than one thousand pupils.

967 (2) "Per pupil cost" means, for a local or regional board of education,
968 the quotient of the net current expenditures, as defined in section 10-
969 261 of the general statutes, divided by the average daily membership
970 of such local or regional board of education.

971 (3) "State average per pupil cost" means the quotient of the sum of
972 the net current expenditures, of all local and regional boards of
973 education, divided by the sum of the average daily membership of all
974 local and regional boards of education.

975 (4) "Small district reduction percentage" means (A) ten per cent for
976 the first fiscal year in which the per pupil cost of the local or regional
977 board of education for the prior fiscal year exceeds the state average
978 per pupil cost for the prior fiscal year by at least ten per cent, (B)
979 twenty per cent for the second consecutive fiscal year in which the per
980 pupil cost of the local or regional board of education for the prior fiscal
981 year exceeds the state average per pupil cost for the prior fiscal year by
982 at least ten per cent, (C) thirty per cent for the third consecutive fiscal
983 year in which the per pupil cost of the local or regional board of
984 education for the prior fiscal year exceeds the state average per pupil
985 cost for the prior fiscal year by at least ten per cent, (D) forty per cent
986 for the fourth consecutive fiscal year in which the per pupil cost of the

987 local or regional board of education for the prior fiscal year exceeds the
988 state average per pupil cost for the prior fiscal year by at least ten per
989 cent, or (E) fifty per cent for the fifth consecutive fiscal year in which
990 the per pupil cost of the local or regional board of education for the
991 prior fiscal year exceeds the state average per pupil cost for the prior
992 fiscal year by at least ten per cent.

993 Sec. 11. Subsection (c) of section 10-264l of the 2012 supplement to
994 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
995 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):

996 (c) (1) The maximum amount each interdistrict magnet school
997 program, except those described in subparagraphs (A) to (F), inclusive,
998 of subdivision (3) of this subsection, shall be eligible to receive per
999 enrolled student who is not a resident of the town operating the
1000 magnet school shall be (A) six thousand sixteen dollars for the fiscal
1001 year ending June 30, 2008, [and] (B) six thousand seven hundred thirty
1002 dollars for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2009, to June 30, [2013] 2012,
1003 inclusive, and (C) seven thousand four hundred forty dollars for the
1004 fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, and each fiscal year thereafter. The per
1005 pupil grant for each enrolled student who is a resident of the town
1006 operating the magnet school program shall be three thousand dollars
1007 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, and each fiscal year thereafter.

1008 (2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003, and each fiscal year
1009 thereafter, the commissioner may, within available appropriations,
1010 provide supplemental grants for the purposes of enhancing
1011 educational programs in such interdistrict magnet schools, as the
1012 commissioner determines. Such grants shall be made after the
1013 commissioner has conducted a comprehensive financial review and
1014 approved the total operating budget for such schools, including all
1015 revenue and expenditure estimates.

1016 (3) (A) Except as otherwise provided in subparagraphs (C) to (F),
1017 inclusive, of this subdivision, each interdistrict magnet school operated
1018 by a regional educational service center that enrolls less than fifty-five
1019 per cent of the school's students from a single town shall receive a per

1020 pupil grant in the amount of (i) six thousand two hundred fifty dollars
1021 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2006, (ii) six thousand five hundred
1022 dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007, (iii) seven thousand
1023 sixty dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, [and] (iv) seven
1024 thousand six hundred twenty dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30,
1025 2009, [and each fiscal year thereafter] to June 30, 2012, inclusive, and
1026 (v) eight thousand one hundred eighty dollars for the fiscal year
1027 ending June 30, 2013, and each fiscal year thereafter.

1028 (B) Except as otherwise provided in subparagraphs (C) to (F),
1029 inclusive, of this subdivision, each interdistrict magnet school operated
1030 by a regional educational service center that enrolls at least fifty-five
1031 per cent of the school's students from a single town shall receive a per
1032 pupil grant for each enrolled student who is not a resident of the
1033 district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent of the school's students in
1034 the amount of (i) six thousand sixteen dollars for the fiscal year ending
1035 June 30, 2008, [and] (ii) six thousand seven hundred thirty dollars for
1036 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, [and each fiscal year thereafter] to
1037 June 30, 2012, inclusive, and (iii) seven thousand four hundred forty
1038 dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, and each fiscal year
1039 thereafter. The per pupil grant for each enrolled student who is a
1040 resident of the district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent of the
1041 school's students shall be three thousand dollars.

1042 [(C) Each interdistrict magnet school operated by a regional
1043 educational service center that began operations for the school year
1044 commencing July 1, 1998, and that for the school year commencing
1045 July 1, 2008, enrolled at least fifty-five per cent, but no more than
1046 seventy per cent of the school's students from a single town shall
1047 receive a per pupil grant for each enrolled student who is a resident of
1048 the district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but no more than
1049 seventy per cent of the school's students in the amount of four
1050 thousand eight hundred ninety-four dollars for the fiscal year ending
1051 June 30, 2010, and four thousand two hundred sixty-three dollars for
1052 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, and a per pupil grant for each
1053 enrolled student who is not a resident of the district that enrolls at least

1054 fifty-five per cent, but no more than seventy per cent of the school's
1055 students in the amount of six thousand seven hundred thirty dollars
1056 for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2010, and June 30, 2011.]

1057 [(D)] (C) Each interdistrict magnet school operated by a regional
1058 educational service center that began operations for the school year
1059 commencing July 1, 2001, and that for the school year commencing
1060 July 1, 2008, enrolled at least fifty-five per cent, but no more than
1061 eighty per cent of the school's students from a single town shall receive
1062 a per pupil grant for each enrolled student who is a resident of the
1063 district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but no more than eighty
1064 per cent of the school's students in the amount of [four thousand two
1065 hundred fifty dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, and three
1066 thousand eight hundred thirty-three] eight thousand one hundred
1067 eighty dollars for the fiscal [years] year ending [June 30, 2011, June 30,
1068 2012, and] June 30, 2013, and each fiscal year thereafter, and a per
1069 pupil grant for each enrolled student who is not a resident of the
1070 district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but no more than eighty
1071 per cent of the school's students in the amount of [six thousand seven
1072 hundred thirty] eight thousand one hundred eighty dollars for the
1073 fiscal [years] year ending [June 30, 2010, June 30, 2011, June 30, 2012,
1074 and] June 30, 2013, [inclusive] and each fiscal year thereafter.

1075 [(E)] (D) Each interdistrict magnet school operated by (i) a regional
1076 educational service center, (ii) the Board of Trustees of the
1077 Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of a regional community-
1078 technical college, (iii) the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State
1079 University System on behalf of a state university, (iv) the Board of
1080 Trustees for The University of Connecticut on behalf of the university,
1081 (v) the board of governors for an independent college or university, as
1082 defined in section 10a-37, or the equivalent of such a board, on behalf
1083 of the independent college or university, (vi) cooperative arrangements
1084 pursuant to section 10-158a, and (vii) any other third-party not-for-
1085 profit corporation approved by the commissioner that enrolls less than
1086 sixty per cent of its students from Hartford pursuant to the 2008
1087 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al.,

1088 shall receive a per pupil grant in the amount of (I) nine thousand six
1089 hundred ninety-five dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010,
1090 and (II) ten thousand four hundred forty-three dollars for the fiscal
1091 years ending June 30, 2011, to June 30, 2013, inclusive.

1092 [(F)] (E) Each interdistrict magnet school operated by the Hartford
1093 school district, pursuant to the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo
1094 Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., shall receive a per pupil grant
1095 for each enrolled student who is not a resident of the district in the
1096 amount of (i) twelve thousand dollars for the fiscal year ending June
1097 30, 2010, and (ii) thirteen thousand fifty-four dollars for the fiscal years
1098 ending June 30, 2011, to June 30, 2013, inclusive.

1099 [(G)] (F) In addition to the grants described in subparagraph [(F)]
1100 (E) of this subdivision, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, the
1101 commissioner may, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the
1102 Office of Policy and Management and the Finance Advisory
1103 Committee, established pursuant to section 4-93, provide
1104 supplemental grants to the Hartford school district of up to one
1105 thousand fifty-four dollars for each student enrolled at an interdistrict
1106 magnet school operated by the Hartford school district who is not a
1107 resident of such district.

1108 (4) The amounts of the grants determined pursuant to this
1109 subsection shall be proportionately adjusted, if necessary, within
1110 available appropriations, and in no case shall any grant pursuant to
1111 this section exceed the reasonable operating budget of the interdistrict
1112 magnet school program, less revenues from other sources. Any
1113 interdistrict magnet school program operating less than full-time, but
1114 at least half-time, shall be eligible to receive a grant equal to sixty-five
1115 per cent of the grant amount determined pursuant to this subsection.

1116 (5) Within available appropriations, the commissioner may make
1117 grants to the following entities that operate an interdistrict magnet
1118 school that assists the state in meeting the goals of the 2008 stipulation
1119 and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as
1120 determined by the commissioner and that provide academic support

1121 programs and summer school educational programs approved by the
1122 commissioner to students participating in such interdistrict magnet
1123 school program: (A) Regional educational service centers, (B) local and
1124 regional boards of education, (C) the Board of Trustees of the
1125 Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of a regional community-
1126 technical college, (D) the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State
1127 University System on behalf of a state university, (E) the Board of
1128 Trustees for The University of Connecticut on behalf of the university,
1129 (F) the board of governors for an independent college or university, as
1130 defined in section 10a-37, or the equivalent of such a board, on behalf
1131 of the independent college or university, (G) cooperative arrangements
1132 pursuant to section 10-158a, and (H) any other third-party not-for-
1133 profit corporation approved by the commissioner.

1134 (6) Within available appropriations, the Commissioner of Education
1135 may make grants, in an amount not to exceed seventy-five thousand
1136 dollars, for start-up costs associated with the development of new
1137 interdistrict magnet school programs that assist the state in meeting
1138 the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v.
1139 William A. O'Neill, et al., as determined by the commissioner, to the
1140 following entities that develop such a program: (A) Regional
1141 educational service centers, (B) local and regional boards of education,
1142 (C) the Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges on
1143 behalf of a regional community-technical college, (D) the Board of
1144 Trustees of the Connecticut State University System on behalf of a state
1145 university, (E) the Board of Trustees for The University of Connecticut
1146 on behalf of the university, (F) the board of governors for an
1147 independent college or university, as defined in section 10a-37, or the
1148 equivalent of such a board, on behalf of the independent college or
1149 university, (G) cooperative arrangements pursuant to section 10-158a,
1150 and (H) any other third-party not-for-profit corporation approved by
1151 the commissioner.

1152 Sec. 12. Section 10-65 of the 2012 supplement to the general statutes
1153 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
1154 *1, 2012*):

1155 (a) Each local or regional school district operating an agricultural
1156 science and technology education center approved by the State Board
1157 of Education for program, educational need, location and area to be
1158 served shall be eligible for the following grants: (1) In accordance with
1159 the provisions of chapter 173, through progress payments in
1160 accordance with the provisions of section 10-287i, (A) for projects for
1161 which an application was filed prior to July 1, 2011, ninety-five per
1162 cent, and (B) for projects for which an application was filed on or after
1163 July 1, 2011, eighty per cent of the net eligible costs of constructing,
1164 acquiring, renovating and equipping approved facilities to be used for
1165 such agricultural science and technology education center, for the
1166 expansion or improvement of existing facilities or for the replacement
1167 or improvement of equipment therein, and (2) subject to the provisions
1168 of section 10-65b, in an amount equal to one thousand three hundred
1169 fifty-five dollars per student for every secondary school student who
1170 was enrolled in such center on October first of the previous year.

1171 (b) Each local or regional board of education not maintaining an
1172 agricultural science and technology education center shall provide
1173 opportunities for its students to enroll in one or more such centers in a
1174 number that is at least equal to the number specified in any written
1175 agreement with each such center or centers, or in the absence of such
1176 an agreement, a number that is at least equal to the average number of
1177 its students that the board of education enrolled in each such center or
1178 centers during the previous three school years, provided, in addition
1179 to such number, each such board of education shall provide
1180 opportunities for its students to enroll in the ninth grade in a number
1181 that is at least equal to the number specified in any written agreement
1182 with each such center or centers, or in the absence of such an
1183 agreement, a number that is at least equal to the average number of
1184 students that the board of education enrolled in the ninth grade in each
1185 such center or centers during the previous three school years. If a local
1186 or regional board of education provided opportunities for students to
1187 enroll in more than one center for the school year commencing July 1,
1188 2007, such board of education shall continue to provide such
1189 opportunities to students in accordance with this subsection. The

board of education operating an agricultural science and technology education center may charge, subject to the provisions of section 10-65b, tuition for a school year in an amount not to exceed eighty-two and five-tenths per cent of the foundation level pursuant to subdivision (9) of section 10-262f, per student for the fiscal year in which the tuition is paid, except that such board may charge tuition for (1) students enrolled under shared-time arrangements on a pro rata basis, and (2) special education students which shall not exceed the actual costs of educating such students minus the amounts received pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section and subsection (c) of this section. Any tuition paid by such board for special education students in excess of the tuition paid for non-special-education students shall be reimbursed pursuant to section 10-76g.

(c) In addition to the grants described in subsection (a) of this section, within available appropriations, (1) each local or regional board of education operating an agricultural science and technology education center in which more than one hundred fifty of the students in the prior school year were out-of-district students shall be eligible to receive a grant in an amount equal to five hundred dollars for every secondary school student enrolled in such center on October first of the previous year, (2) on and after July 1, 2000, if a local or regional board of education operating an agricultural science and technology education center that received a grant pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection no longer qualifies for such a grant, such local or regional board of education shall receive a grant in an amount determined as follows: (A) For the first fiscal year such board of education does not qualify for a grant under said subdivision (1), a grant in the amount equal to four hundred dollars for every secondary school student enrolled in its agricultural science and technology education center on October first of the previous year, (B) for the second successive fiscal year such board of education does not so qualify, a grant in an amount equal to three hundred dollars for every such secondary school student enrolled in such center on said date, (C) for the third successive fiscal year such board of education does not so qualify, a grant in an amount equal to two hundred dollars for every

1225 such secondary school student enrolled in such center on said date,
1226 and (D) for the fourth successive fiscal year such board of education
1227 does not so qualify, a grant in an amount equal to one hundred dollars
1228 for every such secondary school student enrolled in such center on
1229 said date, and (3) each local and regional board of education operating
1230 an agricultural science and technology education center that does not
1231 receive a grant pursuant to subdivision (1) or (2) of this subsection
1232 shall receive a grant in an amount equal to sixty dollars for every
1233 secondary school student enrolled in such center on said date.

1234 (d) (1) If there are any remaining funds after the amount of the
1235 grants described in subsections (a) and (c) of this section are calculated,
1236 within available appropriations, each local or regional board of
1237 education operating an agricultural science and technology education
1238 center shall be eligible to receive a grant in an amount equal to one
1239 hundred dollars for each student enrolled in such center on October
1240 first of the previous school year. (2) If there are any remaining funds
1241 after the amount of the grants described in subdivision (1) of this
1242 subsection are calculated, within available appropriations, each local
1243 or regional board of education operating an agricultural science and
1244 technology education center that had more than one hundred fifty out-
1245 of-district students enrolled in such center on October first of the
1246 previous school year shall be eligible to receive a grant based on the
1247 ratio of the number of out-of-district students in excess of one hundred
1248 fifty out-of-district students enrolled in such center on said date to the
1249 total number of out-of-district students in excess of one hundred fifty
1250 out-of-district students enrolled in all agricultural science and
1251 technology education centers that had in excess of one hundred fifty
1252 out-of-district students enrolled on said date.

1253 (e) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2012, and June 30, 2013, the
1254 Department of Education shall allocate five hundred thousand dollars
1255 to local or regional boards of education operating an agricultural
1256 science and technology education center in accordance with the
1257 provisions of subsections (b) to (d), inclusive, of this section.

1258 (f) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, and each fiscal year
1259 thereafter, if a local or regional board of education receives an increase
1260 in funds pursuant to this section over the amount it received for the
1261 prior fiscal year such increase shall not be used to supplant local
1262 funding for educational purposes.

1263 Sec. 13. Section 10-65a of the general statutes is repealed and the
1264 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):

1265 (a) Each local and regional board of education which operates an
1266 agricultural science and technology education center shall establish
1267 and implement a five-year plan to increase racial and ethnic diversity
1268 at such center. The plan shall reasonably reflect the racial and ethnic
1269 diversity of the area of the state in which the center is located.

1270 (b) Each local and regional board of education which operates an
1271 agricultural science and technology education center shall conduct an
1272 annual study to ascertain the educational and vocational activities in
1273 which graduates of such center are engaged five years after graduation
1274 and shall submit the study to the State Board of Education.

1275 (c) The Department of Education shall, within available
1276 appropriations, offer competitive grants to regional agricultural
1277 science and technology education centers to develop plans to (1)
1278 increase the enrollment of students who reside in a priority school
1279 district pursuant to section 10-266p, and (2) increase overall student
1280 enrollment at agricultural science and technology education centers.

1281 Sec. 14. Subdivision (4) of subsection (e) of section 10-76d of the 2012
1282 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
1283 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):

1284 (4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the
1285 Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services shall provide
1286 regular education and special education and related services to eligible
1287 residents in facilities operated by the department who are eighteen to
1288 twenty-one years of age. In the case of a resident who requires special

1289 education, the department shall provide the requisite identification
1290 and evaluation of such resident in accordance with the provisions of
1291 this section. The department shall be financially responsible for the
1292 provision of educational services to eligible residents. The
1293 Departments of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Children and
1294 Families and Education shall develop and implement an interagency
1295 agreement which specifies the role of each agency in ensuring the
1296 provision of appropriate education services to eligible residents in
1297 accordance with this section. The [State Board of Education shall pay
1298 to the] Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services shall be
1299 responsible for one hundred per cent of the reasonable costs of such
1300 educational services provided to eligible residents of such facilities.
1301 [Payment shall be made by the board as follows: Eighty-five per cent
1302 of the estimated cost in July and the adjusted balance in May.]

1303 Sec. 15. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2012*) (a) There is established a
1304 Connecticut Attract the Best Teacher Scholarship Program
1305 administered by the Office of Financial and Academic Affairs for
1306 Higher Education, in consultation with the Department of Education.

1307 (b) The program shall, within available appropriations, provide
1308 grants to students described in subsection (c) of this section who
1309 demonstrate exemplary academic achievement, as evidenced by
1310 measures which may include, but not be limited to, grade point
1311 average, scores received on examinations conducted pursuant to
1312 section 10-145f of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and a
1313 commitment to be employed by a local or regional board of education
1314 in (1) a school district identified as a priority school district pursuant to
1315 section 10-266p of the general statutes, or (2) a school designated as a
1316 commissioner's network school pursuant to section 10-223e of the
1317 general statutes, as amended by this act.

1318 (c) A student eligible for a grant under said program shall (1) be
1319 enrolled in a teacher education program during such student's senior
1320 year at a four-year public institution of higher education or an
1321 independent college or university, as defined in section 10a-37 of the

1322 general statutes, (2) complete the requirements of such a teacher
1323 education program as a graduate student for one year, or (3) be
1324 enrolled in an alternate route to certification program administered
1325 through the Office of Financial and Academic Affairs for Higher
1326 Education. No student shall receive more than one grant under said
1327 program. A grant awarded to a student shall not exceed five thousand
1328 dollars.

1329 (d) A student who is awarded a grant under this section, and who
1330 has an agreement for employment with a local or regional board of
1331 education for a school district identified as a priority school district
1332 pursuant to section 10-266p of the general statutes or for a school
1333 designated as a commissioner's network school pursuant to section 10-
1334 223e of the general statutes, as amended by this act, upon graduation,
1335 shall be eligible for reimbursement of federal or state educational loan
1336 payments up to a maximum of two thousand five hundred dollars per
1337 year for up to four years that such student is so employed.

1338 (e) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (c) and (d) of this
1339 section, the combined dollar value of grants and loan payment
1340 reimbursements awarded pursuant to this section shall not exceed
1341 fifteen thousand dollars per student.

1342 (f) The Office of Financial and Academic Affairs for Higher
1343 Education may use up to two per cent of the funds appropriated for
1344 purposes of this section for program administration.

1345 Sec. 16. Section 10-223e of the 2012 supplement to the general
1346 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
1347 (*Effective July 1, 2012*):

1348 (a) As used in this section:

1349 (1) "School performance index" means the sum of the subject
1350 performance indices for mathematics, reading, writing and science.

1351 (2) "School subject performance index for mathematics" means thirty
1352 per cent multiplied by the sum of the school mastery test data of

1353 record, as defined in section 10-262f, for mathematics weighted as
1354 follows: (A) Zero for the percentage of students scoring below basic,
1355 (B) twenty-five per cent for the percentage of students scoring at basic,
1356 (C) fifty per cent for the percentage of students scoring at proficient,
1357 (D) seventy-five per cent for the percentage of students scoring at goal,
1358 and (E) one hundred per cent for the percentage of students scoring at
1359 advanced.

1360 (3) "School subject performance index for reading" means thirty per
1361 cent multiplied by the sum of the school mastery test data of record, as
1362 defined in section 10-262f, for reading weighted as follows: (A) Zero
1363 for the percentage of students scoring below basic, (B) twenty-five per
1364 cent for the percentage of students scoring at basic, (C) fifty per cent
1365 for the percentage of students scoring at proficient, (D) seventy-five
1366 per cent for the percentage of students scoring at goal, and (E) one
1367 hundred per cent for the percentage of students scoring at advanced.

1368 (4) "School subject performance index for writing" means thirty per
1369 cent multiplied by the sum of the school mastery test data of record, as
1370 defined in section 10-262f, for writing weighted as follows: (A) Zero for
1371 the percentage of students scoring below basic, (B) twenty-five per cent
1372 for the percentage of students scoring at basic, (C) fifty per cent for the
1373 percentage of students scoring at proficient, (D) seventy-five per cent
1374 for the percentage of students scoring at goal, and (E) one hundred per
1375 cent for the percentage of students scoring at advanced.

1376 (5) "School subject performance index for science" means ten per
1377 cent multiplied by the sum of the school mastery test data of record, as
1378 defined in section 10-262f, for science weighted as follows: (A) Zero for
1379 the percentage of students scoring below basic, (B) twenty-five per cent
1380 for the percentage of students scoring at basic, (C) fifty per cent for the
1381 percentage of students scoring at proficient, (D) seventy-five per cent
1382 for the percentage of students scoring at goal, and (E) one hundred per
1383 cent for the percentage of students scoring at advanced.

1384 (6) "Category five school" means a school with a percentage less
1385 than twenty per cent when all schools are ranked highest to lowest in

1386 school performance index scores.

1387 (7) "Category four school" means a school with a percentage equal
1388 to or greater than twenty per cent, but less than forty per cent when all
1389 schools are ranked highest to lowest in school performance index
1390 scores.

1391 (8) "Category three school" means a school with a percentage equal
1392 to or greater than forty per cent, but less than sixty per cent when all
1393 schools are ranked highest to lowest in school performance index
1394 scores.

1395 (9) "Category two school" means a school with a percentage equal to
1396 or greater than sixty per cent, but less than eighty per cent when all
1397 schools are ranked highest to lowest in school performance index
1398 scores.

1399 (10) "Category one school" means a school with a percentage equal
1400 to or greater than eighty per cent when all schools are ranked highest
1401 to lowest in school performance index scores.

1402 [(a) In] (b) (1) For the school years commencing July 1, 2002, to July
1403 1, 2011, inclusive, in conformance with the No Child Left Behind Act,
1404 P.L. 107-110, the Commissioner of Education shall prepare a state-wide
1405 education accountability plan, consistent with federal law and
1406 regulation. Such plan shall identify the schools and districts in need of
1407 improvement, require the development and implementation of
1408 improvement plans and utilize rewards and consequences.

1409 (2) For the school year commencing July 1, 2012, and each school
1410 year thereafter, the Department of Education shall prepare a state-wide
1411 performance management and support plan, consistent with federal
1412 law and regulation. Such plan shall (A) identify districts in need of
1413 improvement, (B) classify schools as category one, two, three, four or
1414 five schools based on their school performance index, and (C) identify
1415 a category of schools, to be known as focus schools, that have a low
1416 performing subgroup of students using measures of student academic

1417 achievement and growth in the aggregate or for such subgroups over
1418 time, including any period of time prior to July 1, 2014.

1419 [(b)] (c) (1) Public schools identified by the State Board of Education
1420 pursuant to section 10-223b of the general statutes, revision of 1958,
1421 revised to January 1, 2001, as schools in need of improvement shall:
1422 [(1)] (A) Continue to be identified as schools in need of improvement,
1423 and continue to operate under school improvement plans developed
1424 pursuant to said section 10-223b through June 30, 2004; [(2)] (B) on or
1425 before February 1, 2003, be evaluated by the local board of education
1426 and determined to be making sufficient or insufficient progress; [(3)]
1427 (C) if found to be making insufficient progress by a local board of
1428 education, be subject to a new remediation and organization plan
1429 developed by the local board of education; [(4)] (D) continue to be
1430 eligible for available federal or state aid; [(5)] (E) beginning in
1431 February, 2003, be monitored by the Department of Education for
1432 adequate yearly progress, as defined in the state accountability plan
1433 prepared in accordance with subsection [(a)] (b) of this section; and
1434 [(6)] (F) be subject to rewards and consequences as defined in said
1435 plan.

1436 (2) Public schools and school districts identified by the State Board
1437 of Education pursuant to section 10-223e of the general statutes,
1438 revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2011, as schools or districts in
1439 need of improvement pursuant to subsection (a) of said section 10-223e
1440 or low achieving schools or districts pursuant to subdivision (1) of
1441 subsection (c) of said section 10-223e shall: (A) Continue to be
1442 identified as schools in need of improvement and low achieving
1443 schools, and continue to operate under a state accountability plan
1444 prepared in accordance with the provisions of said section 10-223e
1445 through June 30, 2012; (B) on or before July 1, 2012, be evaluated by the
1446 local or regional board of education and determined to be making
1447 adequate yearly progress; (C) if found to be failing to make adequate
1448 yearly progress by a local or regional board of education, be subject to
1449 the state-wide performance management and support plan prepared in
1450 accordance with the provisions of subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of

1451 this section; (D) continue to be eligible for available federal or state aid;
1452 (E) beginning July 1, 2012, be monitored by the Department of
1453 Education to determine if student achievement for such school or
1454 district is at an acceptable level, as defined in the state-wide
1455 performance management and support plan prepared in accordance
1456 with the provisions of subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this section;
1457 and (F) be subject to rewards and consequences as defined in such
1458 state-wide performance management and support plan.

1459 (d) (1) For those schools classified as category three schools, the
1460 department may require such schools to (A) develop and implement
1461 plans consistent with this section and federal law to elevate the school
1462 from low achieving status, and (B) be the subject of actions as
1463 described in the state-wide performance management and support
1464 plan, prepared in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (2) of
1465 subsection (b) of this section.

1466 (2) For those schools classified as category three schools, the
1467 department may require the local or regional board of education for
1468 such schools to collaborate with the regional educational service center
1469 that serves the area in which such schools are located to develop plans
1470 to ensure such schools provide early education opportunities, summer
1471 school, extended school day or year programming, weekend classes,
1472 tutorial assistance to their students or professional development to
1473 their administrators, principals, teachers and paraprofessionals. In
1474 requiring any educational program authorized by this subdivision, the
1475 Commissioner of Education may limit the offering of such program to
1476 the subgroup of students that have failed to reach performance
1477 benchmarks or those in transitional or milestone grades or those who
1478 are otherwise at substantial risk of educational failure as described in
1479 the state-wide performance management and support plan, prepared
1480 in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (2) of subsection (b)
1481 of this section.

1482 [(c)] (e) (1) (A) Any school or school district identified as in need of
1483 improvement pursuant to [subsection (a)] subdivision (1) of subsection

1484 (b) of this section and requiring corrective action pursuant to the
1485 requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-110, shall be
1486 designated and listed as a low achieving school or school district and
1487 shall be subject to intensified supervision and direction by the State
1488 Board of Education.

1489 (B) Any school classified as a category four school or category five
1490 school or a school designated as a focus school shall be designated as
1491 low achieving and shall be subject to intensified supervision and
1492 direction by the State Board of Education.

1493 (2) Notwithstanding any provision of this title or any regulation
1494 adopted pursuant to said [statutes] title, except as provided in
1495 subdivision (3) of this subsection, in carrying out the provisions of
1496 subdivision (1) of this subsection and this subdivision, the State Board
1497 of Education shall take any of the following actions to improve student
1498 performance of the school district, a particular school in the district or
1499 among student subgroups, and remove the school or district from the
1500 list of schools or districts designated and listed as a low achieving
1501 school or district pursuant to said subdivision (1), and to address other
1502 needs of the school or district: (A) Require an operations audit to
1503 identify possible programmatic savings and an instructional audit to
1504 identify any deficits in curriculum and instruction or in the learning
1505 environment of the school or district; (B) require the local or regional
1506 board of education for such school or district to use state and federal
1507 funds for critical needs, as directed by the State Board of Education;
1508 (C) provide incentives to attract highly qualified teachers and
1509 principals; (D) direct the transfer and assignment of teachers and
1510 principals; (E) require additional training and technical assistance for
1511 parents and guardians of children attending the school or a school in
1512 the district and for teachers, principals, and central office staff
1513 members hired by the district; (F) require the local or regional board of
1514 education for the school or district to implement model curriculum,
1515 including, but not limited to, recommended textbooks, materials and
1516 supplies approved by the Department of Education; (G) identify
1517 schools for reconstitution, as may be phased in by the commissioner,

1518 as state or local charter schools, schools established pursuant to section
1519 10-74g, innovation schools established pursuant to section 10-74h, or
1520 schools based on other models for school improvement, or for
1521 management by an entity other than the local or regional board of
1522 education for the district in which the school is located; (H) direct the
1523 local or regional board of education for the school or district to
1524 develop and implement a plan addressing deficits in achievement and
1525 in the learning environment as recommended in the instructional
1526 audit; (I) assign a technical assistance team to the school or district to
1527 guide school or district initiatives and report progress to the
1528 Commissioner of Education; (J) establish instructional and learning
1529 environment benchmarks for the school or district to meet as it
1530 progresses toward removal from the list of low achieving schools or
1531 districts; (K) provide funding to any proximate district to a district
1532 designated as a low achieving school district so that students in a low
1533 achieving district may attend public school in a neighboring district;
1534 (L) direct the establishment of learning academies within schools that
1535 require continuous monitoring of student performance by teacher
1536 groups; (M) require local and regional boards of education to (i)
1537 undergo training to improve their operational efficiency and
1538 effectiveness as leaders of their districts' improvement plans, and (ii)
1539 submit an annual action plan to the Commissioner of Education
1540 outlining how, when and in what manner their effectiveness shall be
1541 monitored; [or] (N) require the appointment of (i) a superintendent,
1542 approved by the Commissioner of Education, or (ii) a special master,
1543 selected by the commissioner, whose authority is consistent with the
1544 provisions of section 138 of public act 11-61, and whose term shall be
1545 for one school year, except that the State Board of Education may
1546 extend such period; or (O) any combination of the actions described in
1547 this subdivision or similar, closely related actions.

1548 (3) If a directive of the State Board of Education pursuant to
1549 subparagraph (C), (D), (E), (G) or (L) of subdivision (2) of this
1550 subsection or a directive to implement a plan pursuant to
1551 subparagraph (H) of said subdivision (2) affects working conditions,
1552 such directive shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions of

1553 sections 10-153a to 10-153n, inclusive.

1554 [(4) The Comptroller shall, pursuant to the provisions of section 10-
1555 262i, withhold any grant funds that a town is otherwise required to
1556 appropriate to a local or regional board of education due to low
1557 academic achievement in the school district pursuant to section 10-
1558 262h. Said funds shall be transferred to the Department of Education
1559 and shall be expended by the department on behalf of the identified
1560 school district. Said funds shall be used to implement the provisions of
1561 subdivision (2) of this subsection and to offset such other local
1562 education costs that the Commissioner of Education deems
1563 appropriate to achieve school improvements. These funds shall be
1564 awarded by the commissioner to the local or regional board of
1565 education for such identified school district upon condition that said
1566 funds shall be spent in accordance with the directives of the
1567 commissioner.]

1568 [(d)] (f) The State Board of Education shall monitor the progress of
1569 each school or district designated as a low achieving school or district
1570 pursuant to subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of subsection [(c)] (e)
1571 of this section and provide notice to the local or regional board of
1572 education for each such school or district of the school or district's
1573 progress toward meeting the benchmarks established by the State
1574 Board of Education pursuant to subsection [(c)] (e) of this section. If a
1575 district fails to make acceptable progress toward meeting such
1576 benchmarks established by the State Board of Education and fails to
1577 make adequate yearly progress pursuant to the requirements of the No
1578 Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-110, for two consecutive years while
1579 designated as a low achieving school district, the State Board of
1580 Education, after consultation with the Governor and chief elected
1581 official or officials of the district, may (1) request that the General
1582 Assembly enact legislation authorizing that control of the district be
1583 reassigned to the State Board of Education or other authorized entity,
1584 or (2) notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 146, any special act,
1585 charter or ordinance, grant the Commissioner of Education the
1586 authority to reconstitute the local or regional board of education for

1587 such school district in accordance with the provisions of subsection
1588 [(h)] (i) of this section.

1589 [(e)] (g) Any school district or elementary school after two
1590 successive years of failing to make adequate yearly progress shall be
1591 designated as a low achieving school district or school and shall be
1592 evaluated by the Commissioner of Education. After such evaluation,
1593 the commissioner may require that such school district or school
1594 provide full-day kindergarten classes, summer school, extended school
1595 day, weekend classes, tutorial assistance to its students or professional
1596 development to its administrators, principals, teachers and
1597 paraprofessional teacher aides if (1) on any subpart of the third grade
1598 state-wide mastery examination, thirty per cent or more of the students
1599 in any subgroup, as defined by the No Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-
1600 110, do not achieve the level of proficiency or higher, or (2) the
1601 commissioner determines that it would be in the best educational
1602 interests of the school or the school district to have any of these
1603 programs. In ordering any educational program authorized by this
1604 subsection, the commissioner may limit the offering of the program to
1605 the subgroup of students that have failed to achieve proficiency as
1606 determined by this subsection, those in particular grades or those who
1607 are otherwise at substantial risk of educational failure. The costs of
1608 instituting the ordered educational programs shall be borne by the
1609 identified low achieving school district or the school district in which
1610 an identified low achieving school is located. The commissioner shall
1611 not order an educational program that costs more to implement than
1612 the total increase in the amount of the grant that a town receives
1613 pursuant to section 10-262i in any fiscal year above the prior fiscal
1614 year.

1615 [(f)] (h) The Commissioner of Education shall conduct a study,
1616 within the limits of the capacity of the Department of Education to
1617 perform such study, of academic achievement of individual students
1618 over time as measured by performance on the state-wide mastery
1619 examination in grades three to eight, inclusive. If this study evidences
1620 a pattern of continuous and substantial growth in educational

1621 performance on said examinations for individual students, then the
1622 commissioner may determine that the school district or elementary
1623 school shall not be subject to the requirements of subsection [(e)] (g) of
1624 this section, but shall still comply with the requirements of the No
1625 Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-110, if applicable.

1626 [(g) (1) (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (C) of this
1627 subdivision, on and after July 1, 2010, the local or regional board of
1628 education for a school that has been identified as in need of
1629 improvement pursuant to subsection (a) of this section may establish,
1630 in accordance with the provisions of this subsection, a school
1631 governance council for each school so identified.

1632 (B) Except as provided in subparagraph (C) of this subdivision, on
1633 and after July 1, 2010, the local or regional board of education for a
1634 school that has been designated as a low achieving school, pursuant to
1635 subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this section, due to such school
1636 failing to make adequate yearly progress in mathematics and reading
1637 at the whole school level shall establish, in accordance with the
1638 provisions of this subsection, a school governance council for each
1639 school so designated.

1640 (C) The provisions of subparagraphs (A) and (B) of this subdivision
1641 shall not apply to a school described in said subparagraphs if (i) such
1642 school consists of a single grade level, or (ii) such school is under the
1643 jurisdiction of a local or regional board of education that has adopted a
1644 similar school governance council model on or before July 1, 2011, that
1645 consists of parents, teachers from each grade level or subject area,
1646 administrators and paraprofessionals and such school governance
1647 council model is being administered at such school at the time such
1648 school is so identified as in need of improvement or so designated as a
1649 low achieving school.

1650 (2) (A) The school governance council for high schools shall consist
1651 of (i) seven members who shall be parents or guardians of students
1652 attending the school, (ii) two members who shall be community
1653 leaders within the school district, (iii) five members who shall be

1654 teachers at the school, (iv) one nonvoting member who is the principal
1655 of the school, or his or her designee, and (v) two nonvoting student
1656 members who shall be students at the school. The parent or guardian
1657 members shall be elected by the parents or guardians of students
1658 attending the school, provided, for purposes of the election, each
1659 household with a student attending the school shall have one vote. The
1660 community leader members shall be elected by the parent or guardian
1661 members and teacher members of the school governance council. The
1662 teacher members shall be elected by the teachers of the school. The
1663 nonvoting student members shall be elected by the student body of the
1664 school.

1665 (B) The school governance council for elementary and middle
1666 schools shall consist of (i) seven members who shall be parents or
1667 guardians of students attending the school, (ii) two members who shall
1668 be community leaders within the school district, (iii) five members
1669 who shall be teachers at the school, and (iv) one nonvoting member
1670 who is the principal of the school, or his or her designee. The parent or
1671 guardian members shall be elected by the parents or guardians of
1672 students attending the school, provided, for purposes of the election,
1673 each household with a student attending the school shall have one
1674 vote. The community leader members shall be elected by the parent or
1675 guardian members and teacher members of the school governance
1676 council. The teacher members shall be elected by the teachers of the
1677 school.

1678 (C) Terms of voting members elected pursuant to this subdivision
1679 shall be for two years and no members shall serve more than two
1680 terms on the council. The nonvoting student members shall serve one
1681 year and no student member shall serve more than two terms on the
1682 council.

1683 (D) (i) Except for those schools described in subparagraph (C) of
1684 subdivision (1) of this subsection, schools that have been designated as
1685 a low achieving school pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of
1686 this section due to such school failing to make adequate yearly

1687 progress in mathematics and reading at the whole school level prior to
1688 July 1, 2010, and are among the lowest five per cent of schools in the
1689 state based on achievement shall establish a school governance council
1690 for the school not later than January 15, 2011.

1691 (ii) Except for those schools described in subparagraph (C) of
1692 subdivision (1) of this subsection, schools that have been designated as
1693 a low achieving school, pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of
1694 this section, due to such school failing to make adequate yearly
1695 progress in mathematics and reading at the whole school level prior to
1696 July 1, 2010, but are not among the lowest five per cent of schools in
1697 the state based on achievement, shall establish a school governance
1698 council for the school not later than November 1, 2011.

1699 (3) The school governance council shall have the following
1700 responsibilities: (A) Analyzing school achievement data and school
1701 needs relative to the improvement plan for the school prepared
1702 pursuant to this section; (B) reviewing the fiscal objectives of the draft
1703 budget for the school and providing advice to the principal of the
1704 school before such school's budget is submitted to the superintendent
1705 of schools for the district; (C) participating in the hiring process of the
1706 school principal or other administrators of the school by conducting
1707 interviews of candidates and reporting on such interviews to the
1708 superintendent of schools for the school district and the local and
1709 regional board of education; (D) assisting the principal of the school in
1710 making programmatic and operational changes for improving the
1711 school's achievement, including program changes, adjusting school
1712 hours and days of operation, and enrollment goals for the school; (E)
1713 working with the school administration to develop and approve a
1714 school compact for parents, legal guardians and students that includes
1715 an outline of the criteria and responsibilities for enrollment and school
1716 membership consistent with the school's goals and academic focus,
1717 and the ways that parents and school personnel can build a
1718 partnership to improve student learning; (F) developing and
1719 approving a written parent involvement policy that outlines the role of
1720 parents and legal guardians in the school; (G) utilizing records relating

1721 to information about parents and guardians of students maintained by
1722 the local or regional board of education for the sole purpose of the
1723 election described in subdivision (2) of this subsection. Such
1724 information shall be confidential and shall only be disclosed as
1725 provided in this subparagraph and shall not be further disclosed; and
1726 (H) if the council determines it necessary and subject to the provisions
1727 of subdivision (8) of this subsection recommending reconstitution of
1728 the school in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (6) of this
1729 subsection.

1730 (4) The school governance council or a similar school governance
1731 council model, described in subparagraph (C) of subdivision (1) of this
1732 subsection, at a school that has been identified as in need of
1733 improvement pursuant to subsection (a) of this section may: (A) In
1734 those schools that require an improvement plan, review the annual
1735 draft report detailing the goals set forth in the state accountability plan
1736 prepared in accordance with subsection (a) of this section and provide
1737 advice to the principal of the school prior to submission of the report to
1738 the superintendent of schools; (B) in those schools where an
1739 improvement plan becomes required pursuant to subsection (a) of this
1740 section, assist the principal of the school in developing such plan prior
1741 to its submission to the superintendent of schools; (C) work with the
1742 principal of the school to develop, conduct and report the results of an
1743 annual survey of parents, guardians and teachers on issues related to
1744 the school climate and conditions; and (D) provide advice on any other
1745 major policy matters affecting the school to the principal of the school,
1746 except on any matters relating to provisions of any collective
1747 bargaining agreement between the exclusive bargaining unit for
1748 teachers pursuant to section 10-153b and local or regional boards of
1749 education.

1750 (5) The local or regional board of education shall provide
1751 appropriate training and instruction to members of the school
1752 governance council or a similar school governance council model,
1753 described in subparagraph (C) of subdivision (1) of this subsection, at a
1754 school that has been identified as in need of improvement pursuant to

1755 subsection (a) of this section to aid them in the execution of their
1756 duties.

1757 (6) (A) The school governance council or a similar school
1758 governance council model, described in subparagraph (C) of
1759 subdivision (1) of this subsection, at a school that has been designated
1760 as a low achieving school, pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (c)
1761 of this section may, by an affirmative vote of the council, recommend
1762 the reconstitution of the school into one of the following models: (i)
1763 The turnaround model, as described in the Federal Register of
1764 December 10, 2009; (ii) the restart model, as described in the Federal
1765 Register of December 10, 2009; (iii) the transformation model, as
1766 described in the Federal Register of December 10, 2009; (iv) any other
1767 model that may be developed by federal law; (v) a CommPACT
1768 school, pursuant to section 10-74g; or (vi) an innovation school,
1769 pursuant to section 10-74h. Not later than ten days after the school
1770 governance council informs the local or regional board of education of
1771 its recommendation for the school, such board shall hold a public
1772 hearing to discuss such vote of the school governance council and
1773 shall, at the next regularly scheduled meeting of such board or ten
1774 days after such public hearing, whichever is later, conduct a vote to
1775 accept the model recommended by the school governance council,
1776 select an alternative model described in this subdivision or maintain
1777 the current school status. If the board selects an alternative model, the
1778 board shall meet with such school governance council to discuss an
1779 agreement on which alternative to adopt not later than ten days after
1780 such vote of the board. If no such agreement can be achieved, not later
1781 than forty-five days after the last such meeting between the board and
1782 the school governance council, the Commissioner of Education shall
1783 decide which of the alternatives to implement. If the board votes to
1784 maintain the current school status, not later than forty-five days after
1785 such vote of the board, the Commissioner of Education shall decide
1786 whether to implement the model recommended by the school
1787 governance council or to maintain the current school status. If the final
1788 decision pursuant to this subdivision is adoption of a model, the local
1789 or regional board of education shall implement such model during the

1790 subsequent school year in conformance with the general statutes and
1791 applicable regulations, and the provisions specified in federal
1792 regulations and guidelines for schools subject to restructuring
1793 pursuant to Section 1116(b)(8) of the No Child Left Behind Act, P.L.
1794 107-110 or any other applicable federal laws or regulations.

1795 (B) Any school governance council for a school or any similar school
1796 governance council model, described in subparagraph (C) of
1797 subdivision (1) of this subsection, at a school that has been identified as
1798 in need of improvement pursuant to subsection (a) of this section may
1799 recommend reconstitution, pursuant to subparagraph (H) of
1800 subdivision (3) of this subsection, during the third year after such
1801 school governance council or such similar school governance council
1802 model was established if the school for such governance council has
1803 not reconstituted as a result of receiving a school improvement grant
1804 pursuant to Section 1003(g) of Title I of the Elementary and Secondary
1805 Education Act, 20 USC 6301 et seq., or such reconstitution was initiated
1806 by a source other than the school governance council.

1807 (7) A school governance council or any similar school governance
1808 council model, described in subparagraph (C) of subdivision (1) of this
1809 subsection, at a school that has been identified as in need of
1810 improvement pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall be
1811 considered a component of parental involvement for purposes of
1812 federal funding pursuant to Section 1118 of the No Child Left Behind
1813 Act, P.L. 107-110.

1814 (8) The Department of Education shall allow not more than twenty-
1815 five schools per school year to reconstitute pursuant to this subsection.
1816 The department shall notify school districts and school governance
1817 councils when this limit has been reached. For purposes of this
1818 subdivision, a reconstitution shall be counted towards this limit upon
1819 receipt by the department of notification of a final decision regarding
1820 reconstitution by the local or regional board of education.]

1821 [(h)] (i) (1) The State Board of Education may authorize the
1822 Commissioner of Education to reconstitute a local or regional board of

1823 education, pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection [(d)] (f) of this
1824 section and in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (2) of this
1825 subsection, for a period of not more than five years. The board shall
1826 not grant such authority to the commissioner unless the board has
1827 required the local or regional board of education to complete the
1828 training described in subparagraph (M) of subdivision (2) of
1829 subsection [(c)] (e) of this section. Upon such authorization by the
1830 board, the commissioner shall terminate the existing local or regional
1831 board of education and appoint the members of a new local or regional
1832 board of education for the school district. Upon the termination of an
1833 existing local or regional board of education, the electoral process for
1834 such board shall be suspended during the period of reconstitution.
1835 Such appointed members may include members of the board of
1836 education that was terminated. The terms of the members of the new
1837 board of education shall be three years. The Department of Education
1838 shall offer training to the members of the new board of education. The
1839 new board of education shall annually report to the commissioner
1840 regarding the district's progress toward meeting the benchmarks
1841 established by the State Board of Education pursuant to subsection
1842 [(c)] (e) of this section and making adequate yearly progress, as
1843 defined in the state accountability plan prepared in accordance with
1844 subdivision (1) of subsection [(a)] (b) of this section. [If the district fails
1845 to show adequate improvement, as determined by the State Board of
1846 Education, after three years] Not later than one hundred eighty days
1847 before the conclusion of the three-year term of the reconstituted board
1848 of education, the commissioner may reappoint the members of the new
1849 board of education or appoint new members to such board of
1850 education for terms of two years, to commence at the conclusion of the
1851 initial three-year term, if the district fails to show adequate
1852 improvement, as determined by the State Board of Education, after
1853 three years.

1854 (2) Upon terminating an existing local or regional board of
1855 education pursuant to the provisions of subdivision (1) of this
1856 subsection, the commissioner shall notify the town clerk in the school
1857 district, or in the case of a regional board of education, the town clerk

1858 of each member town, and the office of the Secretary of the State of
1859 such termination. Such notice shall include the date of such
1860 termination and the positions terminated.

1861 (3) Not later than one hundred seventy-five days before the
1862 conclusion of the term of the reconstituted board of education, the
1863 commissioner shall notify the town clerk in the school district, or in the
1864 case of a regional board of education, the town clerk of each member
1865 town, and the office of the Secretary of the State of the date that such
1866 period of reconstitution will conclude. Upon receipt of such notice by
1867 the Secretary of the State, the electoral process shall commence in
1868 accordance with the provisions of section 9-164, except that if such
1869 notice is delivered before the time specified in section 9-391 to
1870 nominate candidates for municipal office in the year of a municipal
1871 election, such offices may be placed on the ballot of a regular election,
1872 as defined in section 9-1, with the approval of the legislative body of
1873 the municipality. Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 146 and
1874 section 10-46, the legislative body of the municipality or municipalities
1875 involved shall determine the terms of office of the new members to be
1876 elected for such office.

1877 (4) For purposes of this subsection, "electoral process" includes, but
1878 is not limited to, the nominations of candidates by political parties,
1879 nominating petitions, write-in candidacies, and the filling of vacancies
1880 on the board of education.

1881 Sec. 17. (Effective July 1, 2012) (a) The Commissioner of Education
1882 shall establish a commissioner's network of schools to improve student
1883 academic achievement in low performing schools. The commissioner
1884 shall select ten schools from among the schools with a percentage
1885 equal to or less than five per cent when all schools are ranked highest
1886 to lowest in school performance index scores, as defined in section 10-
1887 223e of the general statutes, as amended by this act, for inclusion in the
1888 commissioner's network of schools, provided the commissioner shall
1889 not select more than two schools from a single school district. The
1890 commissioner shall develop a plan for such schools and such plan shall

1891 (1) include an operations and instructional audit, as described in
1892 subparagraph (A) of subdivision (2) of subsection (e) of section 10-223e
1893 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, for each school so
1894 selected, (2) outline the authority of the commissioner to operate the
1895 financial and academic administration of such schools, (3) select
1896 turnaround models for such schools, including, but not limited to,
1897 CommPACT schools, as described in section 10-74g of the general
1898 statutes, and (4) include provisions requiring any matters in a
1899 turnaround plan for a school that conflicts with an existing collective
1900 bargaining agreement for the employees of such school be negotiated
1901 with the exclusive representatives of the teachers' and administrators'
1902 units, as defined in section 10-153b of the general statutes, in
1903 accordance with the provisions of subsection (c) of section 138 of
1904 public act 11-61. Such plan shall be implemented for the school year
1905 commencing July 1, 2012.

1906 (b) Not later than August 1, 2012, the commissioner shall submit the
1907 commissioner's network plan described in subsection (a) of this section
1908 to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
1909 cognizance of matters relating to education, in accordance with the
1910 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

1911 Sec. 18. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2012*) For the school year
1912 commencing July 1, 2012, and each school year thereafter, the
1913 Commissioner of Education shall annually establish a family resource
1914 center, pursuant to section 10-4o of the general statutes, or a school-
1915 based health clinic in a school located in an alliance district, as defined
1916 in section 3 of this act, that has been classified as a category four school
1917 or a category five school pursuant to section 10-223e of the general
1918 statutes, as amended by this act, provided the number of family
1919 resource centers and school-based health clinics established under this
1920 section shall not exceed twenty.

1921 Sec. 19. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2012*) (a) The Department of
1922 Education shall develop a comprehensive plan to encourage
1923 exemplary teachers and administrators, as identified by performance

1924 evaluations, conducted pursuant to section 10-151b of the general
1925 statutes, as amended by this act, and other measures, to work in the
1926 state's lowest performing schools and school districts and enhance the
1927 education profession's career ladder in such schools. Said plan shall be
1928 approved by the State Board of Education and shall:

1929 (1) Encourage individuals to pursue and maintain careers in
1930 education in such schools and school districts;

1931 (2) Identify professional and financial incentives, including, but not
1932 limited to, salary increases, signing bonuses, stipends, housing
1933 subsidies and housing opportunities that will encourage exemplary
1934 teachers and administrators to work in and remain in such schools and
1935 school districts; and

1936 (3) Expand the capacity of nonprofit and private organizations
1937 currently working in the state to stimulate teacher and administrator
1938 leadership and career advancement opportunities in such schools and
1939 school districts, and enable other such organizations to do the same.

1940 (b) The State Board of Education shall provide funding to develop
1941 and implement the plan described in subsection (a) of this section and
1942 shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter
1943 54 of the general statutes, or issue orders, as appropriate, to ensure that
1944 such plan is implemented.

1945 Sec. 20. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2012*) (a) (1) Except as provided in
1946 subdivision (4) of this subsection, on and after July 1, 2010, the local or
1947 regional board of education for a school that has been identified as in
1948 need of improvement pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of
1949 section 10-223e of the general statutes, as amended by this act, may
1950 establish, in accordance with the provisions of this subsection, a school
1951 governance council for each school so identified.

1952 (2) Except as provided in subdivision (4) of this subsection, on and
1953 after July 1, 2010, the local or regional board of education for a school
1954 that has been designated as a low achieving school, pursuant to

1955 subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of subsection (e) of section 10-223e
1956 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, due to such school
1957 failing to make adequate yearly progress in mathematics and reading
1958 at the whole school level shall establish, in accordance with the
1959 provisions of this subsection, a school governance council for each
1960 school so designated.

1961 (3) Except as provided in subdivision (4) of this subsection, on and
1962 after July 1, 2012, the local or regional board of education for a school
1963 that has been classified as a category four school or a category five
1964 school, pursuant to section 10-223e of the general statutes, as amended
1965 by this act, shall establish, in accordance with the provisions of this
1966 subsection, a school governance council for each school so designated.

1967 (4) The provisions of subdivisions (1) to (3), inclusive, of this
1968 subsection shall not apply to a school described in said subdivisions if
1969 (A) such school consists of a single grade level, or (B) such school is
1970 under the jurisdiction of a local or regional board of education that has
1971 adopted a similar school governance council model on or before July 1,
1972 2011, that consists of parents, teachers from each grade level or subject
1973 area, administrators and paraprofessionals and such school
1974 governance council model is being administered at such school at the
1975 time such school is so identified as in need of improvement or so
1976 designated as a low achieving school.

1977 (b) (1) The school governance council for a high school shall consist
1978 of (A) seven members who shall be parents or guardians of students
1979 attending the school, (B) two members who shall be community
1980 leaders within the school district, (C) five members who shall be
1981 teachers at the school, (D) one nonvoting member who is the principal
1982 of the school, or his or her designee, and (E) two nonvoting student
1983 members who shall be students at the school. The parent or guardian
1984 members shall be elected by the parents or guardians of students
1985 attending the school, provided, for purposes of the election, each
1986 household with a student attending the school shall have one vote. The
1987 community leader members shall be elected by the parent or guardian

1988 members and teacher members of the school governance council. The
1989 teacher members shall be elected by the teachers of the school. The
1990 nonvoting student members shall be elected by the student body of the
1991 school.

1992 (2) The school governance council for an elementary or a middle
1993 school shall consist of (A) seven members who shall be parents or
1994 guardians of students attending the school, (B) two members who shall
1995 be community leaders within the school district, (C) five members who
1996 shall be teachers at the school, and (D) one nonvoting member who is
1997 the principal of the school, or his or her designee. The parent or
1998 guardian members shall be elected by the parents or guardians of
1999 students attending the school, provided, for purposes of the election,
2000 each household with a student attending the school shall have one
2001 vote. The community leader members shall be elected by the parent or
2002 guardian members and teacher members of the school governance
2003 council. The teacher members shall be elected by the teachers of the
2004 school.

2005 (3) Terms of voting members elected pursuant to this subdivision
2006 shall be for two years and no members shall serve more than two
2007 terms on the council. The nonvoting student members shall serve one
2008 year and no student member shall serve more than two terms on the
2009 council.

2010 (c) (1) Except for those schools described in subdivision (4) of
2011 subsection (a) of this section, schools that have been designated as a
2012 low achieving school pursuant to subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1)
2013 of subsection (e) of section 10-223e of the general statutes, as amended
2014 by this act, due to such school failing to make adequate yearly progress
2015 in mathematics and reading at the whole school level prior to July 1,
2016 2010, and are among the lowest five per cent of schools in the state
2017 based on achievement shall establish a school governance council for
2018 the school not later than January 15, 2011.

2019 (2) Except for those schools described in subdivision (4) of
2020 subsection (a) of this section, schools that have been designated as a

low achieving school, pursuant to subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of subsection (e) of section 10-223e of the general statutes, as amended by this act, due to such school failing to make adequate yearly progress in mathematics and reading at the whole school level prior to July 1, 2010, but are not among the lowest five per cent of schools in the state based on achievement, shall establish a school governance council for the school not later than November 1, 2011.

(d) The school governance council shall have the following responsibilities: (1) Analyzing school achievement data and school needs relative to the improvement plan for the school prepared pursuant to this section; (2) reviewing the fiscal objectives of the draft budget for the school and providing advice to the principal of the school before such school's budget is submitted to the superintendent of schools for the district; (3) participating in the hiring process of the school principal or other administrators of the school by conducting interviews of candidates and reporting on such interviews to the superintendent of schools for the school district and the local and regional board of education; (4) assisting the principal of the school in making programmatic and operational changes for improving the school's achievement, including program changes, adjusting school hours and days of operation, and enrollment goals for the school; (5) working with the school administration to develop and approve a school compact for parents, legal guardians and students that includes an outline of the criteria and responsibilities for enrollment and school membership consistent with the school's goals and academic focus, and the ways that parents and school personnel can build a partnership to improve student learning; (6) developing and approving a written parent involvement policy that outlines the role of parents and legal guardians in the school; (7) utilizing records relating to information about parents and guardians of students maintained by the local or regional board of education for the sole purpose of the election described in subsection (b) of this section. Such information shall be confidential and shall only be disclosed as provided in this subdivision and shall not be further disclosed; and (8) if the council determines it necessary and subject to the provisions of subsection (i)

2056 of this section recommending reconstitution of the school in
2057 accordance with the provisions of subsection (g) of this section.

2058 (e) The school governance council or a similar school governance
2059 council model, described in subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of this
2060 section, at a school that has been identified as in need of improvement
2061 pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 10-223e of the
2062 general statutes, as amended by this act, may: (1) In those schools that
2063 require an improvement plan, review the annual draft report detailing
2064 the goals set forth in the state accountability plan prepared in
2065 accordance with subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 10-223e of
2066 the general statutes, as amended by this act, and provide advice to the
2067 principal of the school prior to submission of the report to the
2068 superintendent of schools; (2) in those schools where an improvement
2069 plan becomes required pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of
2070 section 10-223e of the general statutes, as amended by this act, assist
2071 the principal of the school in developing such plan prior to its
2072 submission to the superintendent of schools; (3) work with the
2073 principal of the school to develop, conduct and report the results of an
2074 annual survey of parents, guardians and teachers on issues related to
2075 the school climate and conditions; and (4) provide advice on any other
2076 major policy matters affecting the school to the principal of the school,
2077 except on any matters relating to provisions of any collective
2078 bargaining agreement between the exclusive bargaining unit for
2079 teachers pursuant to section 10-153b of the general statutes and local or
2080 regional boards of education.

2081 (f) The local or regional board of education shall provide
2082 appropriate training and instruction to members of the school
2083 governance council or a similar school governance council model,
2084 described in subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of this section, at a school
2085 that has been identified as in need of improvement pursuant to
2086 subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 10-223e of the general
2087 statutes, as amended by this act, to aid the members in the execution of
2088 their duties.

2089 (g) (1) The school governance council or a similar school governance
2090 council model, described in subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of this
2091 section, at a school that has been designated as a low achieving school,
2092 pursuant to subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of subsection (e) of
2093 section 10-223e of the general statutes, as amended by this act, may, by
2094 an affirmative vote of the council, recommend the reconstitution of the
2095 school into one of the following models: (A) The turnaround model, as
2096 described in the Federal Register of December 10, 2009; (B) the restart
2097 model, as described in the Federal Register of December 10, 2009; (C)
2098 the transformation model, as described in the Federal Register of
2099 December 10, 2009; (D) any other model that may be developed by
2100 federal law; (E) a CommPACT school, pursuant to section 10-74g of the
2101 general statutes; or (F) an innovation school, pursuant to section 10-74h
2102 of the general statutes. Not later than ten days after the school
2103 governance council informs the local or regional board of education of
2104 its recommendation for the school, such board shall hold a public
2105 hearing to discuss such vote of the school governance council and
2106 shall, at the next regularly scheduled meeting of such board or ten
2107 days after such public hearing, whichever is later, conduct a vote to
2108 accept the model recommended by the school governance council,
2109 select an alternative model described in this subdivision or maintain
2110 the current school status. If the board selects an alternative model, the
2111 board shall meet with such school governance council to discuss an
2112 agreement on which alternative to adopt not later than ten days after
2113 such vote of the board. If no such agreement can be achieved, not later
2114 than forty-five days after the last such meeting between the board and
2115 the school governance council, the Commissioner of Education shall
2116 decide which of the alternatives to implement. If the board votes to
2117 maintain the current school status, not later than forty-five days after
2118 such vote of the board, the Commissioner of Education shall decide
2119 whether to implement the model recommended by the school
2120 governance council or to maintain the current school status. If the final
2121 decision pursuant to this subdivision is adoption of a model, the local
2122 or regional board of education shall implement such model during the
2123 subsequent school year in conformance with the general statutes and

2124 applicable regulations, and the provisions specified in federal
2125 regulations and guidelines for schools subject to restructuring
2126 pursuant to Section 1116(b)(8) of the No Child Left Behind Act, P.L.
2127 107-110 or any other applicable federal laws or regulations.

2128 (2) Any school governance council for a school or any similar school
2129 governance council model, described in subdivision (4) of subsection
2130 (a) of this section, at a school that has been identified as in need of
2131 improvement pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section
2132 10-223e of the general statutes, as amended by this act, may
2133 recommend reconstitution, pursuant to subdivision (8) of subsection
2134 (d) of this subsection, during the third year after such school
2135 governance council or such similar school governance council model
2136 was established if the school for such governance council has not
2137 reconstituted as a result of receiving a school improvement grant
2138 pursuant to Section 1003(g) of Title I of the Elementary and Secondary
2139 Education Act, 20 USC 6301 et seq., or such reconstitution was initiated
2140 by a source other than the school governance council.

2141 (h) A school governance council or any similar school governance
2142 council model, described in subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of this
2143 section, at a school that has been identified as in need of improvement
2144 pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 10-223e of the
2145 general statutes, as amended by this act, shall be considered a
2146 component of parental involvement for purposes of federal funding
2147 pursuant to Section 1118 of the No Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-110.

2148 (i) The Department of Education shall allow not more than twenty-
2149 five schools per school year to reconstitute pursuant to this subsection.
2150 The department shall notify school districts and school governance
2151 councils when this limit has been reached. For purposes of this
2152 subdivision, a reconstitution shall be counted towards this limit upon
2153 receipt by the department of notification of a final decision regarding
2154 reconstitution by the local or regional board of education.

2155 Sec. 21. Section 9-185 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2156 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):

2157 Unless otherwise provided by special act or charter, (1) members of
2158 boards of assessment appeals, (2) selectmen, (3) town clerks, (4) town
2159 treasurers, (5) collectors of taxes, (6) constables, (7) registrars of voters,
2160 (8) subject to the provisions of subsection [(h)] (i) of section 10-223e, as
2161 amended by this act, members of boards of education, and (9) library
2162 directors shall be elected, provided any town may, by ordinance,
2163 provide for the appointment, by its chief executive authority, of (A) a
2164 constable or constables in lieu of constables to be elected under section
2165 9-200, or (B) a town clerk, town treasurer or collector of taxes in lieu of
2166 the election of such officers as provided in section 9-189. Unless
2167 otherwise provided by special act or charter, all other town officers
2168 shall be appointed as provided by law and, if no other provision for
2169 their appointment is made by law, then (i) by the chief executive
2170 officer of such municipality, (ii) where the legislative body is a town
2171 meeting, by the board of selectmen, or (iii) by such other appointing
2172 authority as a town may by ordinance provide, and except that, if a
2173 board of finance is established under the provisions of section 7-340,
2174 the members thereof shall be elected as provided in section 9-202. Any
2175 town may, by a vote of its legislative body, determine the number of
2176 its officers and prescribe the mode by which they shall be voted for at
2177 subsequent elections.

2178 Sec. 22. Section 10-4s of the 2012 supplement to the general statutes
2179 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
2180 *1, 2012*):

2181 (a) On or before December 1, 2011, and biennially thereafter, the
2182 Department of Education shall report, in accordance with the
2183 provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of the
2184 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education
2185 on the number of school governance councils established pursuant to
2186 [subsection (g) of section 10-223e] section 20 of this act.

2187 (b) On or before December 1, 2013, and biennially thereafter, the
2188 department shall include in the report described in subsection (a) of
2189 this section an evaluation of the establishment and effectiveness of the

2190 school governance councils established pursuant to [subsection (g) of
2191 section 10-223e] section 20 of this act.

2192 (c) On or before December 1, 2015, and biennially thereafter, the
2193 department shall include in the report described in subsection (a) of
2194 this section: (1) The number of school governance councils that have
2195 recommended reconstitution pursuant to [subsection (g) of section 10-
2196 223e] section 20 of this act; (2) the number of such school governance
2197 councils that have initiated reconstitution pursuant to [said subsection
2198 (g) of section 10-223e] section 20 of this act, and the reconstitution
2199 models adopted; and (3) recommendations whether to continue to
2200 allow school governance councils to recommend reconstitution
2201 pursuant to [said subsection (g) of section 10-223e] section 20 of this
2202 act.

2203 (d) On or before December 1, 2017, and biennially thereafter, the
2204 department shall include in the report described in subsection (a) of
2205 this section an evaluation of those schools that have reconstituted
2206 pursuant to [subsection (g) of section 10-223e] section 20 of this act.
2207 Such evaluation shall determine whether such schools have
2208 demonstrated progress with regard to the following indicators: (1) The
2209 reconstitution model adopted by the school; (2) the length of the school
2210 day and school year; (3) the number and type of disciplinary incidents;
2211 (4) the number of truants; (5) the dropout rate; (6) the student
2212 attendance rate; (7) the average scale scores on the state-wide mastery
2213 examination pursuant to section 10-14n; (8) for high schools, the
2214 number and percentage of students completing advanced placement
2215 coursework; (9) the teacher attendance rate; and (10) the existence and
2216 size of the parent-teacher organization for the school.

2217 Sec. 23. Section 10-15 of the 2012 supplement to the general statutes
2218 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
2219 *1, 2012*):

2220 Public schools including kindergartens shall be maintained in each
2221 town for at least one hundred eighty days of actual school sessions
2222 during each year. When public school sessions are cancelled for

2223 reasons of inclement weather or otherwise, the rescheduled sessions
2224 shall not be held on Saturday or Sunday. Public schools may conduct
2225 weekend education programs to provide supplemental and remedial
2226 services to students. A local or regional board of education for a school
2227 that has been designated as a low achieving school pursuant to
2228 subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of subsection [(c)] (e) of section 10-
2229 223e, as amended by this act, or a category four school or a category
2230 five school pursuant to section 10-223e, as amended by this act, may
2231 increase the number of actual school sessions during each year, and
2232 may increase the number of hours of actual school work per school
2233 session in order to improve student performance and remove the
2234 school from the list of schools designated as a low achieving school
2235 maintained by the State Board of Education. The State Board of
2236 Education (1) may authorize the shortening of any school year for a
2237 school district, a school or a portion of a school on account of an
2238 unavoidable emergency, and (2) may authorize implementation of
2239 scheduling of school sessions to permit full year use of facilities which
2240 may not offer each child one hundred eighty days of school sessions
2241 within a given school year, but which assures an opportunity for each
2242 child to average a minimum of one hundred eighty days of school
2243 sessions per year during thirteen years of educational opportunity in
2244 the elementary and secondary schools. Notwithstanding the
2245 provisions of this section and section 10-16, the State Board of
2246 Education may, upon application by a local or regional board of
2247 education, approve for any single school year, in whole or in part, a
2248 plan to implement alternative scheduling of school sessions which
2249 assures at least four hundred fifty hours of actual school work for
2250 nursery schools and half-day kindergartens and at least nine hundred
2251 hours of actual school work for full-day kindergartens and grades one
2252 to twelve, inclusive.

2253 Sec. 24. Subsection (a) of section 10-223f of the general statutes is
2254 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
2255 *1, 2012*):

2256 (a) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2008, to June 30, [2013] 2012,

2257 inclusive, there shall be a pilot program concerning the determination
2258 of adequate yearly progress for the school districts for Bridgeport,
2259 Hartford and New Haven. Under the program, the Department of
2260 Education shall determine the adequate yearly progress, as defined in
2261 the state accountability plan prepared in accordance with subdivision
2262 (1) of subsection [(a)] (b) of section 10-223e, as amended by this act, for
2263 each district with data from each school under the jurisdiction of the
2264 board of education for such district and data from any state charter
2265 school, as defined in subdivision (3) of section 10-66aa, located in such
2266 district, provided the local board of education for such district and the
2267 charter school reach mutual agreement for the inclusion of the data
2268 from the charter schools and the terms of such agreement are
2269 approved by the State Board of Education.

2270 Sec. 25. Section 10-74f of the general statutes is repealed and the
2271 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):

2272 Each local or regional board of education with jurisdiction over an
2273 elementary or middle school that fails to [make adequate yearly
2274 progress based on whole school academic achievement] meet
2275 performance benchmarks in mathematics, reading, or both, as
2276 determined under the state-wide [accountability] performance
2277 management and support plan adopted [under] pursuant to
2278 subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of section 10-223e, as amended by this
2279 act, [for two consecutive years] and is classified as a category four
2280 school or a category five school, may reorganize such school to provide
2281 that:

2282 (1) (A) The school be organized in academies, each containing a
2283 maximum of one hundred seventy-five students divided into different
2284 classes based on grade. (B) Each academy include all grade levels at
2285 the school. (C) Students be randomly assigned to academies. (D) The
2286 academies have different themes but the curriculum be the same in all.

2287 (2) (A) The school principal appoint a teacher as team leader for
2288 each academy based on evaluations pursuant to section 10-151b, as
2289 amended by this act. (B) Team leaders not be teacher supervisors, but

2290 be literacy, mathematics or science specialists. (C) Team leaders work
2291 with the school's regular classroom teachers to: (i) Plan lessons; (ii)
2292 look at student data; (iii) work with small groups of students; (iv)
2293 provide model lessons; and (v) plan school and academy-wide
2294 activities.

2295 (3) Each class in each academy have a ninety-minute mathematics
2296 block and a two-hour literacy block every day.

2297 (4) Each student in the school have an individual education plan
2298 that incorporates the student's personal reading plan if the student is
2299 required to have a reading plan pursuant to section 10-265g or 10-265l,
2300 provided any child with an individual educational program developed
2301 pursuant to section 10-76d, as amended by this act, follows such
2302 program.

2303 (5) All teachers in the school of the same grade level meet weekly to
2304 plan lessons.

2305 (6) Teachers meet daily in teams based on grade level to plan
2306 lessons.

2307 (7) Teachers meet once a week with the team leader and the school
2308 principal to look at student work and data, evaluate instruction and
2309 make adjustments and changes in instruction.

2310 (8) Students receive regular assessments, including short assessment
2311 tests every two weeks, that evaluate short-term progress and district-
2312 wide assessment tests every six weeks that evaluate a student's
2313 progress toward long-term objectives.

2314 (9) Any child who is falling behind based on assessments conducted
2315 under subdivision (8) of this section be the subject of a meeting with
2316 teachers, school principal and parents.

2317 Sec. 26. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2012*) (a) For the fiscal year ending
2318 June 30, 2013, the Commissioner of Education shall establish, within
2319 available appropriations, a competitive cost-sharing grant for local and

2320 regional boards of education, municipalities and not-for-profit
2321 organizations that are exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of
2322 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding
2323 internal revenue code of the United States, as from time to time
2324 amended, to implement a program to provide training and assistance
2325 on the college application process to encourage students to apply to,
2326 enroll in and graduate from college. Such program shall provide
2327 students with the federal student aid application and applications to
2328 colleges and universities, and shall cover the cost of any fee associated
2329 with the application to a college or university in an amount not to
2330 exceed twenty-five per cent of the grant. Applicants for a grant
2331 pursuant to this section shall apply on a form approved by the
2332 commissioner not later than June first of the fiscal year immediately
2333 prior to the fiscal year in which such grant shall be paid.

2334 (b) In order to qualify for funding pursuant to this section, local and
2335 regional boards of education, municipalities and not-for-profit
2336 organizations that are exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of
2337 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding
2338 internal revenue code of the United States, as from time to time
2339 amended, shall agree to provide matching funds equal to the amount
2340 of the grant award in order to implement the program described in
2341 subsection (a) of this section. Such matching contributions may include
2342 money from public or private sources. Public contributions may be
2343 made by the municipality in which the board of education or not-for-
2344 profit organization is located though grant funds received pursuant to
2345 section 10-262i of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

2346 Sec. 27. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2012*) (a) The Department of
2347 Education shall, within available appropriations, establish a pilot grant
2348 program for the school year commencing July 1, 2012, for those local or
2349 regional boards of education operating an innovation school,
2350 established pursuant to section 10-74h of the general statutes, to assist
2351 the state in meeting the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo
2352 Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al, as determined by the
2353 Commissioner of Education.

2354 (b) Applications for innovation school grants awarded pursuant to
2355 this section shall be submitted annually to the Commissioner of
2356 Education at such time and in such manner as the commissioner
2357 prescribes. In determining whether an application shall be approved
2358 and funds awarded pursuant to this section, the commissioner shall
2359 consider the following factors: (1) Whether the program provides a
2360 reduced racial isolation educational program, (2) whether the program
2361 offered by the school is likely to increase student achievement, (3)
2362 whether the program offered by the school is unique and will not
2363 adversely impact enrollment in a program already offered by an
2364 existing interdistrict magnet school, regional vocational-technical
2365 school, or regional agricultural science and technology education
2366 center in the region, (4) the proposed operating budget and the sources
2367 of funding for the innovation school, and (5) any other factor the
2368 commissioner deems appropriate.

2369 (c) (1) Each local or regional board of education operating an
2370 innovation school to assist the state in meeting the goals of the 2008
2371 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al.,
2372 as determined by the commissioner, shall be eligible for a per pupil
2373 grant as follows: (A) An innovation school outside of Hartford that
2374 enrolls at least twenty-five per cent of its students from Hartford shall
2375 be eligible to receive a per pupil grant of four thousand dollars for
2376 each Hartford resident student enrolled in the school, and (B) an
2377 innovation school operated in Hartford that enrolls at least twenty-five
2378 per cent nonminority students shall be eligible to receive a per pupil
2379 grant of four thousand dollars for each out-of-district student enrolled
2380 in the school.

2381 (2) The local or regional board of education operating an innovation
2382 school pursuant to this subsection shall allow out-of-district students
2383 enrolled in such school to continue to attend school in such district
2384 until they graduate from high school, pursuant to section 10-266aa of
2385 the general statutes, as amended by this act, regardless of what grades
2386 are offered at the innovation school.

2387 (d) In the case of an out-of-district student who requires special
2388 education and related services, the sending district shall pay the
2389 receiving district an amount equal to the difference between the
2390 reasonable cost of providing such special education and related
2391 services to such student and the amount received by the receiving
2392 district pursuant to subsection (c) of this section. The sending district
2393 shall be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to section 10-76g of the
2394 general statutes.

2395 (e) The commissioner may, within available appropriations, provide
2396 operating grants for the purposes of enhancing educational programs
2397 in such innovation schools, in an amount up to two hundred fifty
2398 thousand dollars in a fiscal year.

2399 (f) A local or regional board of education operating an innovation
2400 school that enrolls at least twenty-five per cent of its students from
2401 Hartford, or a Hartford innovation school that enrolls at least twenty-
2402 five per cent nonminority students, to assist the state in meeting the
2403 goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William
2404 A. O'Neill, et al., as determined by the commissioner may be eligible
2405 for a school building project grant for such innovation school and for
2406 reimbursement pursuant to section 10-285a of the general statutes and
2407 the percentage determined for this section shall be increased by twenty
2408 percentage points, but shall not exceed eighty per cent for the
2409 reasonable costs of any capital expenditure for the renovation,
2410 alteration or expansion of the school facilities for programmatic
2411 purposes, including any expenditure for the purchase of equipment.
2412 To be eligible for reimbursement under this subsection, the project
2413 shall meet the requirements for a school building project established in
2414 chapter 173 of the general statutes.

2415 Sec. 28. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2012*) The Commissioner of
2416 Education may provide, within available appropriations, grants for
2417 technical assistance and regional cooperation to support any local or
2418 regional boards of education that develops a plan to implement
2419 significant cost-saving strategies while simultaneously maintaining or

2420 improving the quality of education in the district.

2421 Sec. 29. Subsection (g) of section 10-266aa of the 2012 supplement to
2422 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
2423 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):

2424 (g) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, the
2425 Department of Education shall provide, within available
2426 appropriations, an annual grant to the local or regional board of
2427 education for each receiving district in an amount not to exceed two
2428 thousand five hundred dollars for each out-of-district student who
2429 attends school in the receiving district under the program.

2430 (2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, [2012] 2013, and each fiscal
2431 year thereafter, the department shall provide, within available
2432 appropriations, an annual grant to the local or regional board of
2433 education for each receiving district [in an amount equal to (A) three]
2434 if one of the following conditions are met as follows: (A) Three
2435 thousand dollars for each out-of-district student who attends school in
2436 the receiving district under the program if the number of such out-of-
2437 district students is less than two per cent of the total student
2438 population of such receiving district, (B) four thousand dollars for each
2439 out-of-district student who attends school in the receiving district
2440 under the program if the number of such out-of-district students is
2441 greater than or equal to two per cent but less than three per cent of the
2442 total student population of such receiving district, [and] (C) six
2443 thousand dollars for each out-of-district student who attends school in
2444 the receiving district under the program if the number of such out-of-
2445 district students is greater than or equal to three per cent of the total
2446 student population of such receiving district, or (D) six thousand
2447 dollars for each out-of-district student who attends school in the
2448 receiving district under the program if the Commissioner of Education
2449 determines that the receiving district has an enrollment of greater than
2450 four thousand students and has increased the number of students in
2451 the program by at least fifty per cent on October 1, 2012.

2452 (3) Each town which receives funds pursuant to this subsection shall

2453 make such funds available to its local or regional board of education in
2454 supplement to any other local appropriation, other state or federal
2455 grant or other revenue to which the local or regional board of
2456 education is entitled.

2457 Sec. 30. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2012*) (a) The Department of
2458 Education shall create the Connecticut School Leadership Academy
2459 program to provide educational management and professional
2460 development programming to school leaders who are certified
2461 teachers or administrators under chapter 166 of the general statutes or
2462 teachers or administrators enrolled in an alternative route to
2463 certification program. Any such teacher or administrator may apply to
2464 participate in the Connecticut School Leadership Academy on a form
2465 and manner prescribed by the department.

2466 (b) The Department of Education shall, within available
2467 appropriations, provide grants to the Connecticut School Leadership
2468 Academy. The Connecticut School Leadership Academy may charge
2469 tuition to local or regional boards of education or any individual
2470 participating in the program pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

2471 Sec. 31. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2012*) The Department of Education
2472 may provide exemplary schools with rewards which may, at the
2473 commissioner's discretion, include public recognition, financial awards
2474 or operational flexibility. The department may accept private
2475 donations for the purpose of this section.

2476 Sec. 32. Subsection (b) of section 10-16bb of the 2012 supplement to
2477 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
2478 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):

2479 (b) The coordinated system of early care and education and child
2480 development shall (1) create a unified set of reporting requirements for
2481 the programs described in subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section
2482 10-16cc, for the purpose of collecting the data elements necessary to
2483 perform quality assessments and longitudinal analysis; (2) compare
2484 and analyze the data collected pursuant to reporting requirements

2485 created under subdivision (1) of this subsection with the data collected
2486 in the state-wide public school information system, pursuant to section
2487 10-10a, for population-level analysis of children and families; (3)
2488 develop and update appropriate early learning standards and
2489 assessment tools for children from birth to five years of age, inclusive,
2490 that are age and developmentally appropriate and that are aligned
2491 with existing learning standards as of July 1, 2013, and assessment
2492 tools for students in grades kindergarten to twelve, inclusive; (4)
2493 continually monitor and evaluate all early childhood education and
2494 child care programs and services, focusing on program outcomes in
2495 satisfying the health, safety, developmental and educational needs of
2496 all children; (5) develop indicators that assess strategies designed to
2497 strengthen the family through parental involvement in a child's
2498 development and education, including children with special needs; (6)
2499 increase the availability of early childhood education and child care
2500 programs and services and encourage the providers of such programs
2501 and services to work together to create multiple options that allow
2502 families to participate in programs that serve the particular needs of
2503 each family; (7) provide information and technical assistance to
2504 persons seeking early childhood education and child care programs
2505 and services; (8) assist state agencies and municipalities in obtaining
2506 available federal funding for early childhood education and child care
2507 programs and services; (9) provide technical assistance and
2508 consultation to licensed providers of early childhood education and
2509 child care programs and services and assist any potential provider of
2510 such programs and services in obtaining the necessary licensure and
2511 certification; (10) [create, implement and maintain a] incorporate the
2512 quality rating and improvement system developed by the Department
2513 of Education that covers home-based, center-based and school-based
2514 early child care and learning; (11) maintain a system of accreditation
2515 facilitation to assist early childhood education and child care programs
2516 and services in achieving national standards and program
2517 improvement; (12) create partnerships between state agencies and
2518 philanthropic organizations to assist in the implementation of the
2519 coordinated system of early care and education and child

2520 development; (13) align the system's policy and program goals with
2521 those of the Early Childhood Education Cabinet, pursuant to section
2522 10-16z, and the Head Start advisory committee, pursuant to section 10-
2523 16n; (14) ensure a coordinated and comprehensive state-wide system
2524 of professional development for providers of early childhood
2525 education and child care programs and services; (15) develop family-
2526 centered services that assist families in their communities; (16) provide
2527 families with opportunities for choice in services including quality
2528 child care; (17) integrate early childhood education and special
2529 education services; (18) emphasize targeted research-based
2530 interventions; (19) organize services into a coherent system; (20)
2531 coordinate a comprehensive and accessible delivery system for early
2532 childhood education and child care services; (21) focus on performance
2533 measures to ensure that services are accountable, effective and
2534 accessible to the consumer; (22) promote universal access to early
2535 childhood care and education; (23) ensure nonduplication of
2536 monitoring and evaluation; (24) encourage, promote and coordinate
2537 funding for the establishment and administration of local and regional
2538 early childhood councils that implement local and regional birth-to-
2539 eight systems; and (25) perform any other activities that will assist in
2540 the provision of early childhood education and child care programs
2541 and services.

2542 Sec. 33. (*Effective from passage*) (a) For the fiscal year ending June 30,
2543 2013, the Department of Education shall provide funding to
2544 educational reform districts, as defined in section 3 of this act, for the
2545 creation of six hundred new slots in school readiness programs located
2546 in such educational reform districts pursuant to section 10-16p of the
2547 general statutes.

2548 (b) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, the Department of
2549 Education shall provide funding to competitive school districts, as
2550 defined in section 10-16aa of the general statutes, for the creation of
2551 four hundred new slots in school readiness programs located in such
2552 competitive school districts pursuant to section 10-16p of the general
2553 statutes.

2554 Sec. 34. (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding the provisions of
2555 subsections (a) and (b) of section 10-264l of the general statutes, for the
2556 fiscal years ending June 30, 2012, the requirement that not more than
2557 seventy-five per cent of the pupils attending an approved interdistrict
2558 magnet school program be from a participating town and the
2559 requirement that the pupils enrolled in such programs who are pupils
2560 of racial minorities, as defined in section 10-226a of the general
2561 statutes, comprise at least twenty-five per cent but not more than
2562 seventy-five per cent of the total pupil enrollment shall not apply to
2563 the approved interdistrict magnet school program, Big Picture Magnet
2564 School, operated by Bloomfield. Such interdistrict magnet school
2565 program shall reopen as a new school program, The Global Experience
2566 Magnet School, on or after July 1, 2012, pursuant to an operation plan
2567 as approved by the Commissioner of Education and shall begin
2568 operations as of that date for purposes of subsections (a) and (b) of
2569 section 10-264l of the general statutes.

2570 Sec. 35. Section 10-220d of the 2012 supplement to the general
2571 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
2572 (*Effective July 1, 2012*):

2573 Each local and regional board of education shall provide full access
2574 to [regional vocational-technical] technical high schools, regional
2575 agricultural science and technology education centers, interdistrict
2576 magnet schools, charter schools and interdistrict student attendance
2577 programs for the recruitment of students attending the schools under
2578 the board's jurisdiction, provided such recruitment is not for the
2579 purpose of interscholastic athletic competition. Each local and regional
2580 board of education shall provide information relating to technical high
2581 schools, regional agricultural science and technology education
2582 centers, interdistrict magnet schools, charter schools and interdistrict
2583 student attendance programs on the board's web site. Each local and
2584 regional board of education shall inform students and parents of
2585 students in middle and high schools within such board's jurisdiction of
2586 the availability of (1) vocational, technical and technological education
2587 and training at [regional vocational-technical] technical high schools,

2588 and (2) agricultural science and technology education at regional
2589 agricultural science and technology education centers.

2590 Sec. 36. Section 10-95 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2591 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):

2592 (a) The State Board of Education may establish and maintain a state-
2593 wide system of [regional vocational-technical schools offering]
2594 technical high schools to be known as the technical high school system.
2595 The technical high school system shall be governed by a board of
2596 education. Such board shall consist of eleven members as follows: (1)
2597 Four executives of Connecticut-based employers who shall be
2598 nominated by the state-wide industry advisory committees described
2599 in section 4-124gg, as amended by this act, and appointed by the
2600 Governor, (2) five members appointed by the State Board of Education,
2601 (3) the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, and
2602 (4) the Labor Commissioner. The Governor shall appoint the
2603 chairperson. The chairperson of the technical high school system board
2604 shall serve as a nonvoting ex-officio member of the State Board of
2605 Education.

2606 (b) The technical high school system board shall offer full-time, part-
2607 time and evening programs in vocational, technical and technological
2608 education and training. The board may make regulations controlling
2609 the admission of students to any such school. The Commissioner of
2610 Education, in accordance with policies established by the board, may
2611 appoint and remove members of the staffs of such schools and make
2612 rules for the management of and expend the funds provided for the
2613 support of such schools. The board may enter into cooperative
2614 arrangements with local and regional boards of education, private
2615 occupational schools, institutions of higher education, job training
2616 agencies and employers in order to provide general education,
2617 vocational, technical or technological education or work experience.

2618 (c) The board shall recommend a candidate for superintendent of
2619 the technical high school system who shall be appointed as
2620 superintendent by the State Board of Education. Such superintendent

2621 shall be responsible for the operation and administration of the
2622 technical high school system.

2623 [(b)] (d) If the New England Association of Schools and Colleges
2624 places a [regional vocational-technical] technical high school on
2625 probation or otherwise notifies the superintendent of the [vocational-
2626 technical] technical high school system that a [regional vocational-
2627 technical] technical high school is at risk of losing its accreditation, the
2628 Commissioner of Education, on behalf of the technical high school
2629 system board, shall notify the joint standing committee of the General
2630 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education of such
2631 placement or problems relating to accreditation.

2632 [(c)] (e) The [State Board of Education] technical high school system
2633 board shall establish specific achievement goals for students at the
2634 [vocational-technical] technical high schools at each grade level. The
2635 board shall measure the performance of each [vocational-technical]
2636 technical high school and shall identify a set of quantifiable measures
2637 to be used. The measures shall include factors such as performance on
2638 the state-wide tenth grade mastery examination under section 10-14n,
2639 trade-related assessment tests, dropout rates and graduation rates.

2640 Sec. 37. Section 10-99g of the general statutes is repealed and the
2641 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):

2642 (a) (1) Each technical high school shall prepare a proposed operating
2643 budget for the next succeeding school year beginning July first and
2644 submit such proposed operating budget to the superintendent of the
2645 technical high school system. The superintendent shall collect, review
2646 and use the proposed operating budget for each technical high school
2647 to prepare a proposed operating budget for the technical high school
2648 system.

2649 (2) The superintendent of the technical high school system shall
2650 submit a proposed operating budget for the technical high school
2651 system to the technical high school system board. The board shall
2652 review such proposed operating budget and approve or disapprove

2653 such proposed operating budget. If the board disapproves such
2654 proposed operating budget, the board shall adopt an interim budget
2655 and such interim budget shall take effect at the commencement of the
2656 fiscal year and shall remain in effect until the superintendent submits
2657 and the board approves a modified operating budget. The
2658 superintendent shall submit a copy of the approved operating budget
2659 to the Office of Policy and Management.

2660 [(a)] (b) The superintendent of the [regional vocational-technical]
2661 technical high school system shall [biannually] semiannually submit
2662 the operating budget and expenses for each individual [regional
2663 vocational-technical] technical high school, in accordance with section
2664 11-4a, to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, the
2665 director of the legislative Office of Fiscal Analysis and to the joint
2666 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
2667 matters relating to education.

2668 [(b)] (c) The superintendent of the [regional vocational-technical]
2669 technical high school system shall make available and update on the
2670 [regional vocational-technical] technical high school system web site
2671 and the web site of each [regional vocational-technical] technical high
2672 school the operating budget for the current school year of each
2673 individual [regional vocational-technical] technical high school.

2674 Sec. 38. Section 10-95h of the 2012 supplement to the general statutes
2675 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
2676 *1, 2012*):

2677 (a) Not later than November thirtieth each year, the joint standing
2678 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
2679 relating to education, higher education and employment advancement
2680 and labor shall meet with the chairperson of the technical high school
2681 system board and the superintendent of the [regional vocational-
2682 technical] technical high school system, the Labor Commissioner, the
2683 Commissioner of Economic and Community Development and such
2684 other persons as they deem appropriate to consider the items
2685 submitted pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

2686 (b) On or before November fifteenth, annually:

2687 (1) The Labor Commissioner shall submit the following to the joint
2688 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
2689 matters relating to education, higher education and employment
2690 advancement and labor: (A) Information identifying general economic
2691 trends in the state; (B) occupational information regarding the public
2692 and private sectors, such as continuous data on occupational
2693 movements; and (C) information identifying emerging regional, state
2694 and national workforce needs over the next thirty years.

2695 (2) The superintendent of the [vocational-technical] technical high
2696 school system shall submit the following to the joint standing
2697 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
2698 relating to education, higher education and employment advancement
2699 and labor: (A) Information ensuring that the curriculum of the
2700 [regional vocational-technical] technical high school system is
2701 incorporating those workforce skills that will be needed for the next
2702 thirty years, as identified by the Labor Commissioner in subdivision
2703 (1) of this subsection, into the [regional vocational-technical] technical
2704 high schools; (B) information regarding the employment status of
2705 students who graduate from the [regional vocational-technical]
2706 technical high school system; (C) an assessment of the adequacy of the
2707 resources available to the [regional vocational-technical] technical high
2708 school system as the system develops and refines programs to meet
2709 existing and emerging workforce needs; and (D) recommendations to
2710 the State Board of Education to carry out the provisions of
2711 subparagraphs (A) to (C), inclusive, of this subdivision.

2712 (3) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development
2713 shall submit the following to the joint standing committees of the
2714 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education,
2715 higher education and employment advancement and labor: (A)
2716 Information regarding the relationship between the Department of
2717 Economic and Community Development and the [regional vocational-
2718 technical] technical high school system, (B) information regarding

2719 coordinated efforts of the department and the [regional vocational-
2720 technical] technical high school system to collaborate with the business
2721 community, (C) information on workforce training needs identified by
2722 the department through its contact with businesses, (D)
2723 recommendations regarding how the department and the [regional
2724 vocational-technical] technical high school system can coordinate or
2725 improve efforts to address the workforce training needs identified in
2726 subparagraph (C) of this subdivision, (E) information regarding the
2727 efforts of the department to utilize the [regional vocational-technical]
2728 technical high school system in business assistance and economic
2729 development programs offered by the department, and (F) any
2730 additional information the commissioner deems relevant.

2731 Sec. 39. Section 10-97b of the general statutes is repealed and the
2732 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):

2733 (a) On and after July 1, 2010, the State Board of Education shall
2734 replace any school bus that (1) is twelve years or older and is in service
2735 at any [regional vocational-technical] technical high school, or (2) has
2736 been subject to an out-of-service order, as defined in section 14-1, for
2737 two consecutive years for the same reason.

2738 (b) On or before July 1, 2011, and annually thereafter, the
2739 superintendent of the [regional vocational-technical] technical high
2740 school system shall submit, in accordance with the provisions of
2741 section 11-4a, to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management
2742 and to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having
2743 cognizance of matters relating to education and finance, revenue and
2744 bonding a report on the replacement of school buses in service in the
2745 [regional vocational-technical] technical high school system, pursuant
2746 to subsection (a) of this section. Such report shall include the number
2747 of school buses replaced in the previous school year and a projection of
2748 the number of school buses anticipated to be replaced in the upcoming
2749 school year.

2750 Sec. 40. Section 4-124gg of the 2012 supplement to the general
2751 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof

2752 (Effective July 1, 2012):

2753 Not later than October 1, 2012, the Labor Commissioner, with the
2754 assistance of the Office of Workforce Competitiveness and in
2755 consultation with the chairperson of the technical high school system
2756 board and the superintendent of the [regional vocational-technical]
2757 technical high school system, shall create an integrated system of state-
2758 wide industry advisory committees for each career cluster offered as
2759 part of the [regional vocational-technical] technical high school and
2760 regional community-technical college systems. Said committees shall
2761 include industry representatives of the specific career cluster. Each
2762 committee for a career cluster shall, with support from the Labor
2763 Department, [regional vocational-technical] technical high school and
2764 regional community-technical college systems and the Department of
2765 Education, establish specific skills standards, corresponding
2766 curriculum and a career ladder for the cluster which shall be
2767 implemented as part of the schools' core curriculum.

2768 Sec. 41. Section 10-1 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2769 following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2012):

2770 (a) (1) Prior to July 1, 1998, the State Board of Education shall consist
2771 of nine members. On and after July 1, 1998, but prior to July 1, 2010,
2772 the State Board of Education shall consist of eleven members, two of
2773 whom shall be nonvoting student members.

2774 (2) On and after July 1, 2010, but prior to April 1, 2011, the State
2775 Board of Education shall consist of thirteen members, at least two of
2776 whom shall have experience in manufacturing or a trade offered at the
2777 regional vocational-technical schools or be alumni of or have served as
2778 educators at a regional vocational-technical school and two of whom
2779 shall be nonvoting student members. Only those members with
2780 experience in manufacturing or a trade offered at the regional
2781 vocational-technical schools or are alumni of or have served as
2782 educators at a regional vocational-technical school shall be eligible to
2783 serve as the chairperson for the regional vocational-technical school
2784 subcommittee of the board.

2785 (3) On and after April 1, 2011, but prior to July 1, 2012, the State
2786 Board of Education shall consist of thirteen members, (A) at least two
2787 of whom shall have experience in manufacturing or a trade offered at
2788 the regional vocational-technical schools or be alumni of or have
2789 served as educators at a regional vocational-technical school, (B) at
2790 least one of whom shall have experience in agriculture or be an alumni
2791 of or have served as an educator at a regional agricultural science and
2792 technology education center, and (C) two of whom shall be nonvoting
2793 student members. Only those members described in subparagraph (A)
2794 of this subdivision shall be eligible to serve as the chairperson for the
2795 regional vocational-technical school subcommittee of the board.

2796 (4) On and after July 1, 2012, the State Board of Education shall
2797 consist of fourteen members, (A) at least two of whom shall have
2798 experience in manufacturing or a trade offered at the technical high
2799 schools or be alumni of or have served as educators at a technical high
2800 school, (B) at least one of whom shall have experience in agriculture or
2801 be an alumni of or have served as an educator at a regional agricultural
2802 science and technology education center, and (C) two of whom shall be
2803 nonvoting student members.

2804 (b) The Governor shall appoint, with the advice and consent of the
2805 General Assembly, the members of said board, provided each student
2806 member (1) is on the list submitted to the Governor pursuant to section
2807 10-2a, (2) is enrolled in a public high school in the state, (3) has
2808 completed eleventh grade prior to the commencement of his term, (4)
2809 has at least a B plus average, and (5) provides at least three references
2810 from teachers in the school [he] the student member is attending. The
2811 nonstudent members shall serve for terms of four years commencing
2812 on March first in the year of their appointment. The student members
2813 shall serve for terms of one year commencing on July first in the year
2814 of their appointment. The president of the Board of Regents for Higher
2815 Education and the chairperson of the technical high school system
2816 board shall serve as [an] ex-officio [member] members without a vote.
2817 Any vacancy in said State Board of Education shall be filled in the
2818 manner provided in section 4-19.

2819 Sec. 42. Subsection (b) of section 3-20f of the 2012 supplement to the
2820 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
2821 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):

2822 (b) Notwithstanding section 3-20, to the extent there is a sufficient
2823 balance of bonds approved by the General Assembly pursuant to any
2824 bond act for the purposes of general maintenance and trade and
2825 capital equipment for any school in the [regional vocational-technical]
2826 technical high school system, but not allocated by the State Bond
2827 Commission, said commission shall vote on whether to authorize the
2828 issuance of at least two million dollars of such bonds for such
2829 maintenance and equipment at each of said commission's regularly
2830 scheduled meetings occurring in August and February of each year. If
2831 no meeting is held in said months, said commission shall vote on
2832 whether to authorize the issuance of such bonds at its next regularly
2833 scheduled meeting. To the extent there is a sufficient balance of bonds
2834 so approved by the General Assembly and there are pending general
2835 maintenance and trade and capital equipment transactions in excess of
2836 two million dollars, the [superintendent] chairperson of the [regional
2837 vocational-technical] technical high school system board may request,
2838 and the State Bond Commission shall vote on whether to authorize the
2839 issuance of, bonds in excess of two million dollars. To the extent the
2840 balance of bonds so approved by the General Assembly is below two
2841 million dollars at the time of said commission's August or February
2842 meeting, said commission shall vote on whether to authorize the
2843 issuance of the remaining balance of such bonds.

2844 Sec. 43. Section 10-4r of the general statutes is repealed and the
2845 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):

2846 On or before July 1, 2011, the State Board of Education shall develop
2847 recommendations regarding the definition of region for purposes of
2848 attendance in the [regional vocational-technical] technical high school
2849 system. The board shall submit such recommendations, in accordance
2850 with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of
2851 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to

2852 education.

2853 Sec. 44. Subsection (a) of section 10-20a of the 2012 supplement to
2854 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
2855 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):

2856 (a) Local and regional boards of education, the [regional vocational-
2857 technical] technical high school system, postsecondary institutions and
2858 regional educational service centers, may (1) in consultation with
2859 regional workforce development boards established pursuant to
2860 section 31-3k, local employers, labor organizations and community-
2861 based organizations establish career pathway programs leading to a
2862 Connecticut career certificate in accordance with this section, and (2)
2863 enroll students in such programs based on entry criteria determined by
2864 the establishing agency. Such programs shall be approved by the
2865 Commissioner of Education and the Labor Commissioner.
2866 Applications for program approval shall be submitted to the
2867 Commissioner of Education in such form and at such time as the
2868 commissioner prescribes. All programs leading to a Connecticut career
2869 certificate shall provide equal access for all students and necessary
2870 accommodations and support for students with disabilities.

2871 Sec. 45. Section 10-95i of the general statutes is repealed and the
2872 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):

2873 (a) Not later than January 1, 1990, and every five years thereafter,
2874 the State Board of Education shall adopt a long-range plan of priorities
2875 and goals for the [regional vocational-technical] technical high school
2876 system. The plan shall address coordination with other providers of
2877 vocational, technical or technological education or training and shall
2878 include (1) an analysis of the activities described in subsections (b) and
2879 (c) of this section and how such activities relate to the long-range plan
2880 of priorities and goals, and (2) a summary of activities related to
2881 capital improvements and equipment pursuant to subsection (d) of
2882 this section. Upon adoption of the plan, the state board shall file the
2883 plan with the joint standing committees of the General Assembly
2884 having cognizance of matters relating to education, finance, revenue

2885 and bonding and appropriations and the budgets of state agencies. The
2886 state board shall use the plan in preparing its five-year comprehensive
2887 plan pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-4.

2888 (b) During the five-year period beginning January 1, 1990, and
2889 during each five-year period thereafter, the State Board of Education
2890 shall evaluate each existing [regional vocational-technical] technical
2891 high school trade program in accordance with a schedule which the
2892 state board shall establish. A trade program may be reauthorized for a
2893 period of not more than five years following each evaluation on the
2894 basis of: The projected employment demand for students enrolled in
2895 the trade program, including consideration of the employment of
2896 graduates of the program during the preceding five years; anticipated
2897 technological changes; the availability of qualified instructors; the
2898 existence of similar programs at other educational institutions; and
2899 student interest in the trade program. As part of the evaluation, the
2900 state board shall consider geographic differences that may make a
2901 trade program feasible at one school and not another and whether
2902 certain combinations of program offerings shall be required. Prior to
2903 any final decision on the reauthorization of a trade program, the state
2904 board shall consult with the craft committees for the trade program
2905 being evaluated.

2906 (c) The state board shall consider the addition of new trade
2907 programs. Decisions by the state board to add such programs shall at a
2908 minimum be based on the projected employment demand for
2909 graduates of the program, the cost of establishing the program, the
2910 availability of qualified instructors, the existence of similar programs
2911 at other educational institutions and the interest of students in the
2912 trade. The state board shall authorize new trade programs for a
2913 maximum of five years. The state board shall provide a process for the
2914 public, including, but not limited to, employers, parents, students or
2915 teachers, to request consideration of the establishment of a new trade
2916 program.

2917 (d) The State Board of Education shall maintain a rolling five-year

2918 capital improvement and capital equipment plan that identifies: (1)
2919 Alterations, renovations and repairs that each [vocational-technical]
2920 technical high school is expected to need, including, but not limited to,
2921 grounds and athletic fields, heating and ventilation systems, wiring,
2922 roofs, and windows, and the cost of such projects, (2)
2923 recommendations for energy efficiency improvements to each school
2924 and the cost of such improvements, and (3) the specific equipment
2925 each [regional vocational-technical] technical high school is expected to
2926 need, based on the useful life of existing equipment and projections of
2927 changing technology and the estimated cost of the equipment. The
2928 State Board of Education shall submit such plan, annually, to the joint
2929 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
2930 matters relating to education, finance, revenue and bonding and
2931 appropriations and the budgets of state agencies.

2932 Sec. 46. Section 10-95k of the general statutes is repealed and the
2933 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):

2934 (a) Not later than January 1, 1995, and biennially thereafter, the State
2935 Board of Education shall prepare a summary report concerning the
2936 [regional vocational-technical] technical high school system and shall
2937 submit the report to the joint standing committee of the General
2938 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education. The
2939 report shall include demographic information for the preceding two
2940 school years on applicants for admission, students enrolled and
2941 graduates, and a summary of the capital and operating expenditures.
2942 Such information shall be provided for the [regional vocational-
2943 technical] technical high school system and for each [regional
2944 vocational-technical] technical high school and satellite facility.
2945 Enrollment information shall be reported by race and sex and by
2946 specific trade programs. Applicant information shall include the
2947 number of applicants, the number accepted and the number enrolled
2948 reported by race and sex. Enrollment capacity for each school and
2949 projected enrollment capacity for the subsequent school year shall be
2950 developed on the basis of a standardized format and shall be reported
2951 for each school and satellite facility. The report shall also include

2952 assessment of student outcomes including, but not limited to, mastery
2953 examination results pursuant to section 10-14n, retention and
2954 completion rates, and postsecondary education or employment based
2955 on graduate follow-up and, for purposes of employment placement,
2956 state unemployment insurance wage records.

2957 (b) Reports prepared and submitted pursuant to subsection (a) of
2958 this section on and after January 1, 1995, shall identify each [regional
2959 vocational-technical] technical high school for which enrollment on the
2960 preceding October first was less than seventy per cent of the
2961 enrollment capacity identified in the report pursuant to this section for
2962 the prior year. For each such school the report shall include an analysis
2963 of: (1) The reasons for such enrollment, including, but not limited to,
2964 the interest in the specific trade programs offered, the resources
2965 needed to serve special education students, demographic changes and
2966 the existence of alternative vocational, technical and technological
2967 educational training programs in the region in which the school is
2968 located; (2) the likelihood that enrollment will increase or decrease in
2969 the future; (3) any alternative uses for unused space in the facility; and
2970 (4) a recommendation on the steps to be taken to improve enrollment
2971 or a timetable for closing the school. In preparing the analysis, the
2972 State Board of Education shall provide an opportunity for public
2973 comment.

2974 Sec. 47. Section 10-95m of the general statutes is repealed and the
2975 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):

2976 (a) The Department of Education shall conduct a study of the
2977 relationship between admissions scores and performance within the
2978 [regional vocational-technical] technical high school system using the
2979 classes graduating in 2003, 2004 and 2005.

2980 (b) The department shall report periodically, in accordance with this
2981 subsection and section 11-4a, on the study to the joint standing
2982 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
2983 relating to education.

2984 (1) On or before January 1, 2002, the department shall describe (A)
2985 the number and distribution of students by class in each of the
2986 [regional vocational-technical] technical high schools, (B) the format
2987 and contents of the initial data base developed to carry out the study,
2988 (C) the measures, such as the scores on the state-wide tenth grade
2989 mastery examination under section 10-14n, grade point average, class
2990 rank, dropout rates, or trade specific assessment tests, selected to
2991 assess the ability of the individual components of the admissions score
2992 to predict success in the [vocational-technical] technical high school,
2993 and (D) any other factors the department deems relevant to conducting
2994 the study or understanding the results of the study;

2995 (2) On or before January 1, 2003, the department shall present
2996 preliminary results of the study based on data analysis through the
2997 first quarter of the school year commencing in 2002, including the
2998 relevance of the individual components of the admissions score to the
2999 assessment measures, and shall provide statistics on the number of
3000 students from each class for the classes graduating in 2003, 2004 and
3001 2005 who have withdrawn from a [vocational-technical] technical high
3002 school;

3003 (3) On or before January 1, 2004, the department shall (A) present
3004 final results for the class of 2003, including graduation rates and the
3005 results of the postgraduation survey, (B) using such results, predict the
3006 probability of a [vocational-technical] technical high school student's
3007 being successful based on the components of the student's admissions
3008 score, and (C) evaluate the results and discuss whether it feels any
3009 changes are needed in the admissions policies;

3010 (4) On or before January 1, 2005, the department shall present the
3011 final results for the class of 2004, and explain any differences between
3012 said class and the class of 2003; and

3013 (5) On or before January 1, 2006, the department shall submit its
3014 final report, including (A) final results for the class of 2005, (B) using
3015 such results, predict the probability of a [vocational-technical]
3016 technical high school student being successful based on the elements of

3017 the student's admissions score, and (C) describe any changes it intends
3018 to make in the system's admissions policies.

3019 Sec. 48. Section 10-96c of the 2012 supplement to the general statutes
3020 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3021 *1, 2012*):

3022 The Commissioner of Education may indemnify and hold harmless
3023 any person, as defined in section 1-79, who makes a gift of tangible
3024 property or properties with a fair market value in excess of one
3025 thousand dollars to the Department of Education or the [regional
3026 vocational-technical] technical high school system for instructional
3027 purposes. Any indemnification under this section shall be solely for
3028 any damages caused as a result of the use of such tangible property,
3029 provided there shall be no indemnification for any liability resulting
3030 from (1) intentional or wilful misconduct by the person providing such
3031 tangible property to the department or the [regional vocational-
3032 technical] technical high school system, or (2) hidden defects in such
3033 tangible property that are known to and not disclosed by the person
3034 providing such tangible property to the department or the [regional
3035 vocational-technical] technical high school system at the time the gift is
3036 made.

3037 Sec. 49. Section 10-97a of the general statutes is repealed and the
3038 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):

3039 On or before July 15, 2010, and annually thereafter, the State Board
3040 of Education shall arrange for the inspection, in accordance with the
3041 provisions of section 14-282a, of those school buses, as defined in
3042 section 14-275, in operation in the [regional vocational-technical]
3043 technical high school system.

3044 Sec. 50. Section 10-99f of the general statutes is repealed and the
3045 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):

3046 For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, and each fiscal year
3047 thereafter, the budget for the [regional vocational-technical] technical

3048 high school system shall be a separate budgeted agency from the
3049 Department of Education.

3050 Sec. 51. Section 10-215b of the general statutes is repealed and the
3051 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):

3052 (a) The State Board of Education is authorized to expend in each
3053 fiscal year an amount equal to (1) the money required pursuant to the
3054 matching requirements of said federal laws and shall disburse the
3055 same in accordance with said laws, and (2) ten cents per lunch served
3056 in the prior school year in accordance with said laws by any local or
3057 regional board of education, the [regional vocational-technical]
3058 technical high school system or governing authority of a state charter
3059 school, interdistrict magnet school or endowed academy approved
3060 pursuant to section 10-34 that participates in the National School
3061 Lunch Program and certifies pursuant to section 10-215f, as amended
3062 by this act, that the nutrition standards established by the Department
3063 of Education pursuant to section 10-215e shall be met.

3064 (b) The State Board of Education shall prescribe the manner and
3065 time of application by such board of education, the [regional
3066 vocational-technical] technical high school system, such governing
3067 authority or controlling authority of the nonpublic schools for such
3068 funds, provided such application shall include the certification that
3069 any funds received pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall be
3070 used for the program approved. The State Board of Education shall
3071 determine the eligibility of the applicant to receive such grants
3072 pursuant to regulations provided in subsection (c) of this section and
3073 shall certify to the Comptroller the amount of the grant for which the
3074 board of education, the [regional vocational-technical] technical high
3075 school system, the governing authority or the controlling authority of a
3076 nonpublic school is eligible. Upon receipt of such certification, the
3077 Comptroller shall draw an order on the Treasurer in the amount, at the
3078 time and to the payee so certified.

3079 (c) The State Board of Education may adopt such regulations as may
3080 be necessary in implementing sections 10-215 to 10-215b, inclusive, as

3081 amended by this act.

3082 (d) The Commissioner of Education shall establish a procedure for
3083 monitoring compliance by boards of education, the [regional
3084 vocational-technical] technical high school system, or governing
3085 authorities with certifications submitted in accordance with section 10-
3086 215f, as amended by this act, and may adjust grant amounts pursuant
3087 to subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section based on failure to
3088 comply with said certification.

3089 Sec. 52. Section 10-215f of the general statutes is repealed and the
3090 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):

3091 (a) Each local and regional board of education, the [regional
3092 vocational-technical] technical high school system, and the governing
3093 authority for each state charter school, interdistrict magnet school and
3094 endowed academy approved pursuant to section 10-34 that
3095 participates in the National School Lunch Program shall certify in its
3096 annual application to the Department of Education for school lunch
3097 funding whether, during the school year for which such application is
3098 submitted, all food items made available for sale to students in schools
3099 under its jurisdiction and not exempted from the nutrition standards
3100 published by the Department of Education pursuant to section 10-215e
3101 will meet said standards. Except as otherwise provided in subsection
3102 (b) of this section, such certification shall include food not exempted
3103 from said nutrition standards and offered for sale to students at all
3104 times, and from all sources, including, but not limited to, school stores,
3105 vending machines, school cafeterias, and any fundraising activities on
3106 school premises, whether or not school sponsored.

3107 (b) Each board of education, the [regional vocational-technical]
3108 technical high school system and each governing authority that
3109 certifies pursuant to this section compliance with the department's
3110 nutrition standards for food may exclude from such certification the
3111 sale to students of food items that do not meet such standards,
3112 provided (1) such sale is in connection with an event occurring after
3113 the end of the regular school day or on the weekend, (2) such sale is at

3114 the location of such event, and (3) such food is not sold from a vending
3115 machine or school store.

3116 Sec. 53. Subsection (a) of section 10-283b of the 2012 supplement to
3117 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3118 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):

3119 (a) On and after July 1, 2011, the Commissioner of Construction
3120 Services shall include school building projects for the [regional
3121 vocational-technical] technical high schools on the list developed
3122 pursuant to section 10-283. The adoption of the list by the General
3123 Assembly and authorization by the State Bond Commission of the
3124 issuance of bonds pursuant to section 10-287d shall fund the full cost
3125 of the projects. On or after July 1, 2011, the Commissioner of
3126 Construction Services, in consultation with the Commissioner of
3127 Education, may approve applications for grants to assist school
3128 building projects for the [regional vocational-technical] technical high
3129 school system to remedy damage from fire and catastrophe, to correct
3130 safety, health and other code violations, to replace roofs, to remedy a
3131 certified school indoor air quality emergency, or to purchase and
3132 install portable classroom buildings at any time within the limit of
3133 available grant authorization and to make payments on such a project
3134 within the limit of appropriated funds, provided portable classroom
3135 building projects do not create a new facility or cause an existing
3136 facility to be modified so that the portable buildings comprise a
3137 substantial percentage of the total facility area, as determined by the
3138 Commissioner of Construction Services. Such projects shall be subject
3139 to the requirements of chapters 59 and 60.

3140 Sec. 54. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2012*) (a) Whenever the term
3141 "regional vocational-technical school" or "regional vocational-technical
3142 schools" is used or referred to in the following sections of the general
3143 statutes, the term "technical high school" or "technical high schools"
3144 shall be substituted in lieu thereof: 4-124ff, 4a-11a, 4d-83, 5-275, 8-
3145 265pp, 10-9, 10-19d, 10-19e, 10-21g, 10-66p, 10-67, 10-74d, 10-76q, 10-
3146 95a, 10-95j, 10-95n, 10-95o, 10-97, 10-98a, 10-233d, 10-235, 10-264l, 10-

283, 10-287d, 10a-55e, 10a-55g, 10a-72d, 17b-610, 31-3c, 31-3h, 31-3k, 31-11p, 32-4i, 32-6j and 32-475.

(b) Whenever the term "vocational-technical school" or "vocational-technical schools" is used or referred to in the following sections of the general statutes, the term "technical high school" or "technical high schools" shall be substituted in lieu thereof: 1-79, 1-84d, 1-91, 4-67g, 4-124z, 4-124hh, 4a-2, 10-15d, 10-19e, 10-21g, 10-69, 10-95a, 10-95l, 10-235, 10-262n, 10-284, 10a-25b, 17b-688i, 31-3ee and 31-51ww.

(c) Whenever the term "vocational school" or "vocational schools" is used or referred to in the following sections of the general statutes, the term "technical high school" or "technical high schools" shall be substituted in lieu thereof: 4-29, 10-13, 10-55, 10-64, 10-97, 10-186, 10a-123, 10a-166, 14-36, 20-90, 31-23, 31-24, 38a-682 and 48-9.

(d) The Legislative Commissioners' Office shall, in codifying the provisions of this section, make such technical, grammatical and punctuation changes as are necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.

Sec. 55. Subsections (b) and (c) of section 10-157 of the 2012 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):

(b) A local or regional board of education may appoint as acting superintendent a person who is or is not properly certified for a [specified] probationary period, [of time,] not to exceed [ninety days] one school year, with the approval of the Commissioner of Education. [Such] During such probationary period such acting superintendent shall assume all duties of the superintendent for the time specified [, provided] and shall successfully complete the Connecticut School Leadership Academy program, pursuant to section 30 of this act. At the conclusion of such probationary period, [of time may be extended with the approval of the commissioner, which he shall grant for good cause shown] such appointing local or regional board of education may request the commissioner to grant a waiver of certification for

3179 such acting superintendant pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.

3180 (c) The commissioner may, upon request of an employing local or
3181 regional board of education, grant a waiver of certification to a person
3182 (1) who has successfully completed at least three years of experience as
3183 a certified administrator with a superintendent certificate issued by
3184 another state in a public school in another state during the ten-year
3185 period prior to the date of application, or (2) who has successfully
3186 completed a probationary period as an acting superintendent pursuant
3187 to subsection (b) of this section, [or (2)] and who the commissioner
3188 deems to be exceptionally qualified for the position of superintendent.
3189 [In order for the commissioner to find a person exceptionally qualified,
3190 such person shall (A) be an acting superintendent pursuant to
3191 subsection (b) of this section, (B) have worked as a superintendent in
3192 another state for no fewer than fifteen years, and (C) be certified or
3193 have been certified as a superintendent by such other state.]

3194 Sec. 56. Section 10-151 of the 2012 supplement to the general statutes
3195 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3196 *1, 2012*):

3197 (a) For the purposes of this section:

3198 (1) "Board of education" means a local or regional board of
3199 education, a cooperative arrangement committee established pursuant
3200 to section 10-158a, or the board of trustees of an incorporated or
3201 endowed high school or academy approved pursuant to section 10-34,
3202 which is located in this state;

3203 (2) "Teacher" includes each certified professional employee below
3204 the rank of superintendent employed by a board of education for at
3205 least ninety calendar days in a position requiring a certificate issued by
3206 the State Board of Education;

3207 (3) "Continuous employment" means that time during which the
3208 teacher is employed without any break in employment as a teacher for
3209 the same board of education;

3210 (4) "Full-time employment" means a teacher's employment in a
3211 position at a salary rate of fifty per cent or more of the salary rate of
3212 such teacher in such position if such position were full-time;

3213 (5) "Part-time employment" means a teacher's employment in a
3214 position at a salary rate of less than fifty per cent of the salary rate of
3215 such teacher in such position, if such position were full-time;

3216 (6) "Tenure" means:

3217 (A) The completion of [thirty] forty school months of full-time
3218 continuous employment for the same board of education, [for teachers
3219 initially hired prior to July 1, 1996; and forty such school months for
3220 teachers initially hired on or after said date] provided the
3221 superintendent offers the teacher a contract to return for the following
3222 school year. For purposes of calculating continuous employment
3223 towards tenure, the following shall apply: (i) For a teacher who has not
3224 attained tenure, two school months of part-time continuous
3225 employment by such teacher shall equal one school month of full-time
3226 continuous employment except, for a teacher employed in a part-time
3227 position at a salary rate of less than twenty-five per cent of the salary
3228 rate of a teacher in such position, if such position were full-time, three
3229 school months of part-time continuous employment shall equal one
3230 school month of full-time continuous employment; (ii) a teacher who
3231 has not attained tenure shall not count layoff time towards tenure,
3232 except that if such teacher is reemployed by the same board of
3233 education within five calendar years of the layoff, such teacher may
3234 count the previous continuous employment immediately prior to the
3235 layoff towards tenure; (iii) a teacher who has not attained tenure shall
3236 not count authorized leave time towards tenure if such time exceeds
3237 ninety student school days in any one school year, provided only the
3238 student school days worked that year by such teacher shall count
3239 towards tenure and shall be computed on the basis of eighteen student
3240 school days or the greater fraction thereof equaling one school month;
3241 and (iv) for a teacher who has not attained tenure and who is
3242 employed by a local or regional board of education that enters into a

3243 cooperative arrangement pursuant to section 10-158a, such teacher
3244 may count the previous continuous employment with such board
3245 immediately prior to such cooperative arrangement towards tenure.

3246 (B) For a teacher who has attained tenure prior to layoff, tenure shall
3247 resume if such teacher is reemployed by the same board of education
3248 within five calendar years of the layoff.

3249 (C) Except as provided in subparagraphs (B), (D) and (E) of this
3250 subdivision, any teacher who has attained tenure with any one board
3251 of education and whose employment with such board ends for any
3252 reason and who is reemployed by such board or is subsequently
3253 employed by any other board, shall attain tenure after completion of
3254 twenty school months of continuous employment. The provisions of
3255 this subparagraph shall not apply if, (i) prior to completion of the
3256 twentieth school month following commencement of employment by
3257 such board such teacher has been notified in writing that his or her
3258 contract will not be renewed for the following school year, or (ii) for a
3259 period of five or more calendar years immediately prior to such
3260 subsequent employment, such teacher has not been employed by any
3261 board of education.

3262 (D) Any certified teacher or administrator employed by a local or
3263 regional board of education for a school district identified as a priority
3264 school district pursuant to section 10-266p may attain tenure after ten
3265 months of employment in such priority school district, if such certified
3266 teacher or administrator previously attained tenure with another local
3267 or regional board of education in this state or another state.

3268 (E) For a teacher who has attained tenure and is employed by a local
3269 or regional board of education that enters into a cooperative
3270 arrangement pursuant to section 10-158a, such teacher shall not
3271 experience a break in continuous employment for purposes of tenure
3272 as a result of such cooperative arrangement.

3273 (7) "School month" means any calendar month other than July or
3274 August in which a teacher is employed as a teacher at least one-half of

3275 the student school days.

3276 (b) Any board of education may authorize the superintendent to
3277 employ teachers. Any superintendent not authorized to employ
3278 teachers shall submit to the board of education nominations for
3279 teachers for each of the schools in the town or towns in such
3280 superintendent's jurisdiction and, from the persons so nominated,
3281 teachers may be employed. Such board shall accept or reject such
3282 nominations [within] not later than thirty-five calendar days from their
3283 submission. Any such board of education may request the
3284 superintendent to submit multiple nominations of qualified
3285 candidates, if more than one candidate is available for nomination, for
3286 any supervisory or administrative position, in which case the
3287 superintendent shall submit such a list and may place the candidates
3288 on such list in the order in which such superintendent recommends
3289 such candidates. If such board rejects such nominations, the
3290 superintendent shall submit to such board other nominations and such
3291 board may employ teachers from the persons so nominated and shall
3292 accept or reject such nominations [within] not later than one month
3293 from their submission. Whenever a superintendent offers a teacher
3294 who has not attained tenure a contract to return for another year of
3295 employment, such offer shall be based on records of evaluations
3296 pursuant to subsection (a) of section 10-151b, as amended by this act.
3297 The contract of employment of a teacher shall be in writing.

3298 (c) The contract of employment of a teacher who has not attained
3299 tenure may be terminated at any time for any of the reasons
3300 enumerated in subdivisions (1) to (6), inclusive, of subsection (d) of
3301 this section; otherwise the contract of such teacher shall be continued
3302 into the next school year unless such teacher receives written notice by
3303 May first in one school year that such contract will not be renewed for
3304 the following year. Upon the teacher's written request, not later than
3305 three calendar days after such teacher receives such notice of
3306 nonrenewal or termination, a notice of nonrenewal or termination shall
3307 be supplemented [within seven] not later than four calendar days after
3308 receipt of the request by a statement of the reason or reasons for such

3309 nonrenewal or termination. Such teacher, upon written request filed
3310 with the board of education [within twenty] not later than ten calendar
3311 days after the receipt of notice of termination, or nonrenewal shall be
3312 entitled to a hearing, except as provided in this subsection, (1) before
3313 the board, or (2) if indicated in such request and if designated by the
3314 board, before an impartial hearing [panel established and conducted in
3315 accordance with the provisions of subsection (d) of this section, or (3) if
3316 the parties mutually agree before a single impartial hearing] officer
3317 chosen by the teacher and the superintendent in accordance with the
3318 provisions of subsection (d) of this section. Such hearing shall
3319 commence [within] not later than fifteen calendar days after receipt of
3320 such request unless the parties mutually agree to an extension not to
3321 exceed fifteen calendar days. The impartial hearing [panel or] officer or
3322 a subcommittee of the board of education, if the board of education
3323 designates a subcommittee of three or more board members to conduct
3324 hearings, shall submit written findings and recommendations to the
3325 board for final disposition. The teacher shall have the right to appear
3326 with counsel of the teacher's choice at the hearing. A teacher who has
3327 not attained tenure shall not be entitled to a hearing concerning
3328 nonrenewal if the reason for such nonrenewal is either elimination of
3329 position or loss of position to another teacher. The board of education
3330 shall rescind a nonrenewal decision only if the board finds such
3331 decision to be arbitrary and capricious. Any such teacher whose
3332 contract is terminated for the reasons enumerated in subdivisions (3)
3333 and (4) of subsection (d) of this section shall have the right to appeal in
3334 accordance with the provisions of subsection (e) of this section.

3335 (d) The contract of employment of a teacher who has attained tenure
3336 shall be continued from school year to school year, except that it may
3337 be terminated at any time for one or more of the following reasons: (1)
3338 Inefficiency, [or] incompetence or ineffectiveness, provided, if a
3339 teacher is notified on or after July 1, [2000] 2012, that termination is
3340 under consideration due to incompetence or ineffectiveness, the
3341 determination of incompetence or ineffectiveness is based on
3342 evaluation of the teacher using teacher evaluation guidelines
3343 established pursuant to section 10-151b, as amended by this act; (2)

3344 insubordination against reasonable rules of the board of education; (3)
3345 moral misconduct; (4) disability, as shown by competent medical
3346 evidence; (5) elimination of the position to which the teacher was
3347 appointed or loss of a position to another teacher, if no other position
3348 exists to which such teacher may be appointed if qualified, provided
3349 such teacher, if qualified, shall be appointed to a position held by a
3350 teacher who has not attained tenure, and provided further that
3351 determination of the individual contract or contracts of employment to
3352 be terminated shall be made in accordance with either (A) a provision
3353 for a layoff procedure agreed upon by the board of education and the
3354 exclusive employees' representative organization, or (B) in the absence
3355 of such agreement, a written policy of the board of education; or (6)
3356 other due and sufficient cause. Nothing in this section or in any other
3357 section of the general statutes or of any special act shall preclude a
3358 board of education from making an agreement with an exclusive
3359 bargaining representative which contains a recall provision. Prior to
3360 terminating a contract, the superintendent shall give the teacher
3361 concerned a written notice that termination of such teacher's contract is
3362 under consideration and [, upon written request filed by such teacher
3363 with the superintendent, within seven days after receipt of such notice,
3364 shall within the next succeeding seven days] give such teacher a
3365 statement [in writing] of the reasons [therefor. Within twenty] for such
3366 consideration of termination. Not later than ten calendar days after
3367 receipt of written notice by the superintendent that contract
3368 termination is under consideration, such teacher may file with the local
3369 or regional board of education a written request for a hearing. A board
3370 of education may designate a subcommittee of three or more board
3371 members to conduct hearings and submit written findings and
3372 recommendations to the board for final disposition in the case of
3373 teachers whose contracts are terminated. Such hearing shall commence
3374 [within] not later than fifteen calendar days after receipt of such
3375 request, unless the parties mutually agree to an extension, not to
3376 exceed fifteen calendar days (A) before the board of education or a
3377 subcommittee of the board, or (B) if indicated in such request or if
3378 designated by the board before an impartial hearing [panel, or (C) if

3379 the parties mutually agree, before a single impartial hearing] officer
3380 chosen by the teacher and the superintendent. If the parties are unable
3381 to agree upon the choice of a hearing officer [within] not later than five
3382 calendar days after [their] the decision to use a hearing officer, the
3383 hearing [shall be held before the board or panel, as the case may be.
3384 The impartial hearing panel shall consist of three members appointed
3385 as follows: The superintendent shall appoint one panel member, the
3386 teacher shall appoint one panel member, and those two panel
3387 members shall choose a third, who shall serve as chairperson. If the
3388 two panel members are unable to agree upon the choice of a third
3389 panel member within five days after the decision to use a hearing
3390 panel, the third panel member] officer shall be selected with the
3391 assistance of the American Arbitration Association using its expedited
3392 selection process and in accordance with its rules for selection of a
3393 neutral arbitrator in grievance arbitration. If the [third panel member]
3394 hearing officer is not selected with the assistance of such association
3395 [within] after five days, the hearing shall be held before the board of
3396 education or a subcommittee of the board. [Within seventy-five] Not
3397 later than forty-five calendar days after receipt of the request for a
3398 hearing, the [impartial hearing panel,] subcommittee of the board or
3399 hearing officer, unless the parties mutually agree to an extension not to
3400 exceed fifteen calendar days, shall submit written findings and a
3401 recommendation to the board of education as to the disposition of the
3402 charges against the teacher and shall send a copy of such findings and
3403 recommendation to the teacher. The board of education shall give the
3404 teacher concerned its written decision [within] not later than fifteen
3405 calendar days of receipt of the written recommendation of the
3406 [impartial hearing panel,] subcommittee or hearing officer. Each party
3407 shall [pay the fee of the panel member selected by it and shall] share
3408 equally the fee of the [third panel member or] hearing officer and all
3409 other costs incidental to the hearing. If the hearing is before the board
3410 of education, the board shall render its decision [within] not later than
3411 fifteen calendar days after the close of such hearing and shall send a
3412 copy of its decision to the teacher. The hearing shall be public if the
3413 teacher so requests or the board, subcommittee [,] or hearing officer [or

3414 panel] so designates. The teacher concerned shall have the right to
3415 appear with counsel at the hearing, whether public or private. A copy
3416 of a transcript of the proceedings of the hearing shall be furnished by
3417 the board of education, upon written request by the teacher within
3418 fifteen days after the board's decision, provided the teacher shall
3419 assume the cost of any such copy. Nothing herein contained shall
3420 deprive a board of education or superintendent of the power to
3421 suspend a teacher from duty immediately when serious misconduct is
3422 charged without prejudice to the rights of the teacher as otherwise
3423 provided in this section.

3424 (e) Any teacher aggrieved by the decision of a board of education
3425 after a hearing as provided in subsection (d) of this section may appeal
3426 therefrom, [within] not later than thirty calendar days of such decision,
3427 to the Superior Court. Such appeal shall be made returnable to said
3428 court in the same manner as is prescribed for civil actions brought to
3429 said court. Any such appeal shall be a privileged case to be heard by
3430 the court as soon after the return day as is practicable. The board of
3431 education shall file with the court a copy of the complete transcript of
3432 the proceedings of the hearing and the minutes of board of education
3433 meetings relating to such termination, including the vote of the board
3434 on the termination, together with such other documents, or certified
3435 copies thereof, as shall constitute the record of the case. The court,
3436 upon such appeal, shall review the proceedings of such hearing. The
3437 court, upon such appeal and hearing thereon, may affirm or reverse
3438 the decision appealed from in accordance with subsection (j) of section
3439 4-183. Costs shall not be allowed against the board of education unless
3440 it appears to the court that it acted with gross negligence or in bad
3441 faith or with malice in making the decision appealed from.

3442 Sec. 57. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Commissioner of Education,
3443 in consultation with the Performance Evaluation Advisory Council,
3444 established under section 10-151d of the general statutes, shall develop
3445 a plan for establishing a link between teacher and administrator
3446 evaluation and support programs, adopted pursuant to section 10-151b
3447 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and the attainment of

3448 tenure pursuant to section 10-151 of the general statutes, as amended
3449 by this act. Such plan shall (1) outline how performance evaluation
3450 levels are related to determinations of effectiveness and ineffectiveness
3451 for purposes of attaining tenure, (2) develop a process for validating
3452 evaluations for purposes of attaining and losing tenure and obtaining a
3453 distinguished educator designation pursuant to section 63 of this act,
3454 and (3) address issues relating to teachers and administrators who
3455 have been identified as ineffective by two or more boards of education.

3456 (b) Not later than January 1, 2013, the commissioner shall submit
3457 such plan to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
3458 having cognizance of matters relating to education, in accordance with
3459 the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

3460 Sec. 58. Section 10-151b of the 2012 supplement to the general
3461 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
3462 (*Effective from passage*):

3463 (a) The superintendent of each local or regional board of education
3464 shall [continuously] annually evaluate or cause to be evaluated each
3465 teacher and administrator, in accordance with guidelines established
3466 by the State Board of Education, pursuant to subsection (c) of this
3467 section, and such other guidelines as may be established by mutual
3468 agreement between the local or regional board of education and the
3469 teachers' and administrators' representative chosen pursuant to section
3470 10-153b, and may conduct additional formative evaluations toward
3471 producing an annual summative evaluation. An evaluation pursuant
3472 to this subsection shall include, but need not be limited to, strengths,
3473 areas needing improvement, strategies for improvement and multiple
3474 indicators of student academic growth. Claims of failure to follow the
3475 established procedures of such evaluation and support programs shall
3476 be subject to the grievance procedure in collective bargaining
3477 agreements negotiated subsequent to July 1, 2004. In the event that a
3478 teacher or an administrator does not receive a summative evaluation
3479 during the school year, such teacher or administrator shall receive a
3480 proficient rating for such school year. The superintendent shall report

3481 the status of teacher evaluations to the local or regional board of
3482 education on or before June first of each year. For purposes of this
3483 section, the term "teacher" and "administrator" shall include each
3484 professional employee of a board of education, below the rank of
3485 superintendent, who holds a certificate or permit issued by the State
3486 Board of Education.

3487 (b) (1) Each local and regional board of education shall develop and
3488 implement teacher and administrator evaluation and support
3489 programs consistent with guidelines established by the State Board of
3490 Education, pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, and consistent
3491 with the plan developed in accordance with the provisions of
3492 subsection (b) of section 10-220a.

3493 (2) Each superintendent shall annually report to the Commissioner
3494 of Education the status of the implementation of teacher and
3495 administrator evaluations, including the frequency of evaluations,
3496 aggregate evaluation ratings, the number of teachers and
3497 administrators who have not been evaluated and other requirements
3498 as determined by the Department of Education.

3499 (c) On or before July 1, 2012, the State Board of Education shall
3500 adopt, in consultation with the Performance Evaluation Advisory
3501 Council established pursuant to section 10-151d, guidelines for a
3502 model teacher and administrator evaluation and support program.
3503 Such guidelines shall [provide guidance on] include, but not be limited
3504 to, (1) the use of four performance evaluations designators: Exemplary,
3505 proficient, developing and below standard; (2) the use of multiple
3506 indicators of student academic growth and development in teacher
3507 and administrator evaluations; [Such guidelines shall include, but not
3508 be limited to: (1) Methods] (3) methods for assessing student academic
3509 growth and development; [(2)] (4) a consideration of control factors
3510 tracked by the state-wide public school information system, pursuant
3511 to subsection (c) of section 10-10a, that may influence teacher and
3512 administrator performance ratings, including, but not limited to,
3513 student characteristics, student attendance and student mobility; [and

3514 (3)] (5) minimum requirements for teacher and administrator
3515 evaluation instruments and procedures, including scoring systems to
3516 determine exemplary, proficient, developing and below standard
3517 ratings; (6) the development and implementation of periodic training
3518 programs regarding the teacher and administrator evaluation and
3519 support program to be offered by the local or regional board of
3520 education or regional educational service center for the school district
3521 to teachers and administrators who are employed by such local or
3522 regional board of education and whose performance is being evaluated
3523 and to administrators who are employed by such local or regional
3524 board of education and who are conducting performance evaluations;
3525 (7) the provision of professional development services based on the
3526 individual or group of individuals' needs that are identified through
3527 the evaluation process; (8) the creation of individual teacher and
3528 administrator improvement and remediation plans for teachers and
3529 administrators whose performance is developing or below standard
3530 designed in consultation with such teacher or administrator and his or
3531 her exclusive bargaining representative for certified teachers chosen
3532 pursuant to section 10-153b of the general statutes, and that (A)
3533 identify resources, support and other strategies to be provided by the
3534 local or regional board of education to address documented
3535 deficiencies, (B) indicate a timeline for implementing such resources,
3536 support, and other strategies, in the course of the same school year as
3537 the plan is issued, and (C) include indicators of success including a
3538 summative rating of proficient or better immediately at the conclusion
3539 of the improvement and remediation plan; (9) opportunities for career
3540 development and professional growth; and (10) a validation procedure
3541 to audit evaluation ratings of exemplary or below standard by the
3542 department, or a third party entity approved by the department, to
3543 validate such exemplary or below standard evaluation ratings for any
3544 teacher or administrator.

3545 Sec. 59. *(Effective from passage)* (a) The Neag School of Education at
3546 The University of Connecticut shall study the implementation of
3547 teacher and administrator evaluation and support programs, adopted
3548 pursuant to section 10-151b of the general statutes, as amended by this

3549 act, in ten school districts selected by the Commissioner of Education
3550 for the school year commencing July 1, 2012. Such study shall compare
3551 the teacher and administrator evaluation and support program
3552 adopted by each local or regional board of education to the model
3553 teacher and administrator evaluation and support program developed
3554 pursuant to said section 10-151b, and shall analyze the administration
3555 and results of such program.

3556 (b) Not later than October 1, 2013, the Neag School of Education at
3557 The University of Connecticut shall submit such study to the joint
3558 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
3559 matters relating to education, in accordance with the provisions of
3560 section 11-4a of the general statutes.

3561 Sec. 60. Section 10-144o of the general statutes is repealed and the
3562 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

3563 As used in sections 10-145 to 10-158a, inclusive:

3564 (1) "Equivalent" means qualifications reasonably comparable to
3565 those specifically listed as required for certification;

3566 (2) "Initial educator certificate" means a license to teach issued on or
3567 after July 1, [1989] 2014, to a person who has successfully met the
3568 preparation and eligibility requirements specified by the State Board of
3569 Education for entrance into a beginning educator program. Such
3570 certificate shall expire after eight years serving in a public school or
3571 private special education facility and may be extended for up to two
3572 years by application to the State Board of Education. The State Board
3573 of Education shall renew such certificate if such person is not serving
3574 in a public school or private special education facility during such
3575 period;

3576 (3) "Beginning educator program" means the support and standards
3577 program established by the State Board of Education for holders of
3578 initial educator certificates. The program shall be designed to improve
3579 the quality of the first school years of teaching and to determine

3580 whether holders of initial educator certificates have achieved the level
3581 of competency, as defined by said board, to entitle them to
3582 [provisional] professional educator certificates;

3583 [(4) "Provisional teaching certificate" or "provisional certificate"
3584 means a license to teach during the provisional certification period,
3585 issued prior to July 1, 1989, to a person who meets in full the
3586 preparation requirements of the State Board of Education;

3587 (5) "Provisional educator certificate" means a license to teach, issued
3588 on or after July 1, 1989, to a person who (A) has successfully completed
3589 a beginning educator program, if there is such a program for such
3590 person's certification endorsement area, and not less than one school
3591 year of successful teaching in a public school, (B) has completed at
3592 least three years of successful teaching in a public or nonpublic school
3593 approved by the State Board of Education or appropriate governing
3594 body in another state within ten years prior to application for such
3595 provisional educator certificate or (C) has successfully taught with a
3596 provisional teaching certificate for the year immediately preceding
3597 application for such provisional educator certificate as an employee of
3598 a local or regional board of education or facility approved for special
3599 education by the State Board of Education;

3600 (6) "Standard teaching certificate" or "standard certificate" means a
3601 license to teach issued prior to July 1, 1989, to one who has successfully
3602 completed no less than three school years of satisfactory teaching
3603 experience and fulfilled other requirements while holding a
3604 provisional certificate or its equivalent;]

3605 [(7)] (4) "Professional educator certificate" means a license to teach
3606 issued on or after July 1, [1989] 2014, initially to a person who has (A)
3607 successfully completed a beginning educator program, if there is such
3608 a program for such person's certification endorsement area, (B)
3609 successfully completed not less than three school years of teaching in a
3610 public school, private special education facility approved by the State
3611 Board of Education or nonpublic school approved by the State Board
3612 of Education while holding [a provisional educator or provisional

3613 teaching] an initial educator certificate, and (C) has successfully
3614 completed [not fewer than thirty semester hours of credit beyond a
3615 bachelor's degree] a master's degree in a course of study directly
3616 related to such teacher's ability to improve teaching and learning from
3617 a program approved by the State Board of Education or from a college
3618 or university accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher Education
3619 or the State Board of Education or regionally accredited. Said
3620 certificate shall be continued every five years after issuance [upon the
3621 successful completion of continuing education,] in accordance with
3622 [subsection (i)] the provisions of section 10-145b, as amended by this
3623 act, during each successive five-year period; [. The successful
3624 completion of continuing education units shall only be required for
3625 certified employees of local and regional boards of education;]

3626 [(8) "Temporary ninety-day certificate" means a license to teach
3627 issued on or after July 1, 1988, to a person upon the request of a local or
3628 regional board of education pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-
3629 145b. Each such certificate may be reissued once upon the request of a
3630 local or regional board of education during the 1988-1989 school year
3631 and upon reissuance shall be effective until July 1, 1989. Any provision
3632 for the reissuance of such certificate after said school year shall be
3633 pursuant to regulations adopted by the State Board of Education;]

3634 [(9)] (5) "One year" means one school year.

3635 Sec. 61. Subsection (e) of section 10-145a of the 2012 supplement to
3636 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3637 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

3638 (e) On and after July 1, [1998] 2014, any candidate in a program of
3639 teacher preparation leading to professional certification shall be
3640 encouraged to complete a computer and other information technology
3641 skills component of such program, as applied to student learning and
3642 classroom instruction, communications and data management.

3643 Sec. 62. Section 10-145b of the 2012 supplement to the general
3644 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof

3645 (Effective July 1, 2014):

3646 (a) [The] Except as otherwise provided in subsection (c) of this
3647 section, the State Board of Education, upon receipt of a proper
3648 application, shall issue an initial educator certificate to any person who
3649 has graduated (1) from a four-year baccalaureate program or a
3650 master's program of teacher education as approved by [said state
3651 board] the State Board of Education, or (2) from a four-year
3652 baccalaureate program or master's program approved by [said state
3653 board] the State Board of Education or from a college or university
3654 accredited by the [board of regents] Board of Regents for Higher
3655 Education or the State Board of Education or regionally accredited,
3656 provided such person has taken such teacher training equivalents as
3657 the State Board of Education shall require and, unless such equivalents
3658 are taken at institutions outside of this state, as the [board of regents]
3659 Board of Regents for Higher Education or the State Board of Education
3660 shall accredit. In addition, on and after July 1, 1993, each applicant
3661 shall have completed a subject area major as defined by the State Board
3662 of Education, except as provided in section 10-145l. Each such initial
3663 educator certificate shall be valid for [three] eight years, and may be
3664 extended for up to two years, on an annual basis, by application to the
3665 State Board of Education, except as provided in subsection (c) of this
3666 section. [, and may be extended by the Commissioner of Education for
3667 an additional year for good cause upon the request of the
3668 superintendent in whose school district such person is employed or
3669 upon the request of the assessment team reviewing such person's
3670 performance.] The State Board of Education shall renew such
3671 certificate if such person is not serving in a public school or private
3672 special education facility during such period.

3673 (b) During the period of employment in a public school, a person
3674 holding an initial educator certificate shall (1) be under the supervision
3675 of the superintendent of schools or of a principal, administrator or
3676 supervisor designated by such superintendent who shall regularly
3677 observe, guide and evaluate the performance of assigned duties by
3678 such holder of an initial certificate, and (2) participate in a beginning

3679 educator program if there is such a program for such person's
3680 certification endorsement area.

3681 (c) (1) [The] If an applicant does not satisfy the requirements
3682 described in subsections (a) and (b) of this section, the State Board of
3683 Education [, upon request of a local or regional board of education,]
3684 shall issue [a temporary ninety-day] an initial educator certificate to
3685 any applicant in the certification endorsement areas of elementary
3686 education, middle grades education, secondary academic subjects,
3687 special subjects or fields, special education, early childhood education
3688 and administration and supervision when the following conditions are
3689 met:

3690 [(A) The employing agent of a board of education makes a written
3691 request for the issuance of such certificate and attests to the existence
3692 of a special plan for supervision of temporary ninety-day certificate
3693 holders;]

3694 [(B)] (A) The applicant meets the following requirements, except as
3695 otherwise provided in subparagraph [(C)] (B) of this subdivision:

3696 (i) Holds a bachelor's degree from an institution of higher education
3697 accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher Education, the State
3698 Board of Education or regionally accredited with a major either in or
3699 closely related to the certification endorsement area in which [the
3700 requesting board of education is placing the applicant] such applicant
3701 will be placed or, in the case of secondary or special subject or field
3702 endorsement area, possesses at least the minimum total number of
3703 semester hours of credit required for the content area, except as
3704 provided in section 10-145l;

3705 (ii) Has met the requirements pursuant to subsection (b) of section
3706 10-145f, as amended by this act;

3707 (iii) Presents a written application on such forms as the
3708 Commissioner of Education shall prescribe;

3709 (iv) Has successfully completed an alternate route to certification

3710 program provided by the Board of Regents for Higher Education or
3711 public or independent institutions of higher education, regional
3712 educational service centers or private teacher or administrator training
3713 organizations and approved by the State Board of Education;

3714 (v) Possesses an undergraduate college overall grade point average
3715 of at least "B" or, if the applicant has completed at least twenty-four
3716 hours of graduate credit, possesses a graduate grade point average of
3717 at least "B"; and

3718 (vi) Presents supporting evidence of appropriate experience
3719 working with children; and

3720 [(C)] (B) The Commissioner of Education may waive the
3721 requirements of subparagraphs [(B)(v) or (B)(vi)] (A)(v) or (A)(vi), or
3722 both, of this subdivision upon a showing of good cause.

3723 [(2) A person serving under a temporary ninety-day certificate shall
3724 participate in a beginning support and assessment program pursuant
3725 to section 10-220a which is specifically designed by the state
3726 Department of Education for holders of temporary ninety-day
3727 certificates.

3728 (3) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section
3729 to the contrary, on and after July 1, 1989, the State Board of Education,
3730 upon receipt of a proper application, shall issue an initial educator
3731 certificate, which shall be valid for three years, to any person who has
3732 taught successfully while holding a temporary ninety-day certificate
3733 and meets the requirements pursuant to regulations adopted pursuant
3734 to section 10-145d.]

3735 (d) In order to be eligible to obtain [a provisional teaching
3736 certificate, a provisional educator certificate or] an initial educator
3737 certificate, each person shall be required to complete a course of study
3738 in special education comprised of not fewer than thirty-six hours,
3739 which shall include an understanding of the growth and development
3740 of exceptional children, including handicapped and gifted and talented

3741 children and children who may require special education, and
3742 methods for identifying, planning for and working effectively with
3743 special needs children in a regular classroom. Notwithstanding the
3744 provisions of this subsection, [to the contrary,] each applicant for such
3745 certificates who has met all requirements for certification except the
3746 completion of the course in special education shall be entitled to a
3747 certificate (1) for a period not to exceed one year, provided the
3748 applicant completed a teacher preparation program either in the state
3749 prior to July 1, 1987, or outside the state, or completed the necessary
3750 combination of professional experience or coursework as required by
3751 the State Board of Education or (2) for a period not to exceed two years
3752 if the applicant applies for certification in an area for which a
3753 bachelor's degree is not required.

3754 [(e) On and after July 1, 1989, the State Board of Education, upon
3755 receipt of a proper application, shall issue a provisional educator
3756 certificate to any person who (1) has successfully completed a
3757 beginning educator program and one school year of successful
3758 teaching as attested to by the superintendent, or the superintendent's
3759 designee, in whose local or regional school district such person was
3760 employed, (2) has completed at least three years of successful teaching
3761 in a public school in another state or a nonpublic school approved by
3762 the State Board of Education or appropriate governing body in another
3763 state within ten years prior to application for such provisional
3764 educator certificate, as attested to by the superintendent, or the
3765 superintendent's designee, in whose school district such person was
3766 employed, or by the supervising agent of the nonpublic school in
3767 which such person was employed, and has met preparation and
3768 eligibility requirements for an initial educator certificate, or (3) has
3769 successfully taught with a provisional teaching certificate for the year
3770 immediately preceding an application for a provisional educator
3771 certificate as an employee of a local or regional board of education or
3772 facility approved for special education by the State Board of Education.

3773 (f) Any person holding a standard or permanent certificate on July
3774 1, 1989, shall be eligible to receive upon application a professional

3775 educator certificate to replace said standard or permanent certificate.
3776 On and after July 1, 1989, standard and permanent certificates shall no
3777 longer be valid.]

3778 [(g)] (e) On or after [July 1, 1989, and prior to July 1, 2016] July 1,
3779 2014, to qualify for a professional educator certificate, a person who
3780 holds or has held [a provisional] an initial educator certificate under
3781 [subsection (e)] subsection (a) or (c) of this section shall have
3782 [completed thirty credit hours of course work beyond the
3783 baccalaureate degree. It is not necessary that such course work be
3784 taken for a master's degree and such work may include graduate or
3785 undergraduate courses. On and after July 1, 2016, to qualify for a
3786 professional educator certificate, a person who holds or has held a
3787 provisional educator certificate under subsection (d) of this section
3788 shall have completed thirty credit hours of graduate coursework at a
3789 regionally accredited institution of higher education] (1) successfully
3790 completed a beginning educator program, if there is such a program
3791 for such person's certification endorsement area, (2) successfully
3792 completed not less than three school years of teaching in a public
3793 school, private special education facility approved by the State Board
3794 of Education or nonpublic school approved by the State Board of
3795 Education while holding an initial educator certificate, and (3) has
3796 successfully completed a master's degree in a course of study directly
3797 related to such teacher's ability to improve teaching and learning from
3798 a program approved by the State Board of Education or from a college
3799 or university accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher Education
3800 or the State Board of Education or regionally accredited.

3801 [(h)] (f) (1) Unless otherwise provided in regulations adopted under
3802 section 10-145d, in not less than three years or more than eight years
3803 after the issuance of [a provisional] an initial educator certificate
3804 pursuant to [subsection (e)] subsection (a) or (c) of this section and
3805 upon the statement of the superintendent, or the superintendent's
3806 designee, in whose school district such certificate holder was
3807 employed, or the supervisory agent of a nonpublic school approved by
3808 the State Board of Education, in whose school such certificate holder

3809 was employed, that the [provisional] initial educator certificate holder
3810 and such superintendent, or such superintendent's designee, or
3811 supervisory agent have mutually determined or approved an
3812 individual program [pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (g) of
3813 this section] and upon the statement of such superintendent, or such
3814 superintendent's designee, or supervisory agent that such certificate
3815 holder has a record of [competency] effectiveness in the discharge of
3816 such certificate holder's duties during [such provisional period, the
3817 state board] the period that such person held an initial educator
3818 certificate, the State Board of Education, upon receipt of a proper
3819 application, shall issue such certificate holder a professional educator
3820 certificate. A signed recommendation from the superintendent of
3821 schools, or the superintendent's designee, for the local or regional
3822 board of education or from the supervisory agent of a [nonpublic
3823 school] private special education facility approved by the State Board
3824 of Education shall be evidence of [competency] effectiveness. Such
3825 recommendation shall state that the person who holds or has held [a
3826 provisional] an initial educator certificate has successfully completed
3827 at least three school years of [satisfactory] effective teaching for one or
3828 more local or regional boards of education or such [nonpublic schools]
3829 private special education facility. [Each applicant for a certificate
3830 pursuant to this subsection shall provide to the Department of
3831 Education, in such manner and form as prescribed by the
3832 commissioner, evidence that the applicant has successfully completed
3833 coursework pursuant to subsection (g) of this section, as appropriate.]

3834 (2) Upon receipt of a proper application, the State Board of
3835 Education shall issue to a teacher from another state, territory or
3836 possession of the United States or the District of Columbia or the
3837 Commonwealth of Puerto Rico who (A) is nationally board certified by
3838 an organization deemed appropriate by the Commissioner of
3839 Education to issue such certifications, [and] or (B) has taught under an
3840 appropriate certificate in another state, territory or possession of the
3841 United States or the District of Columbia or the Commonwealth of
3842 Puerto Rico for a minimum of [three years] one year in the preceding
3843 [ten] five years (i) [a provisional] an initial educator certificate with the

3844 appropriate endorsement, or (ii) if such teacher has, prior to July 1,
3845 2016, completed thirty credit hours of undergraduate or graduate
3846 coursework beyond the baccalaureate degree, and on and after July 1,
3847 2016, completed thirty credit hours of graduate coursework, a
3848 professional educator certificate with the appropriate endorsement,
3849 subject to the provisions of subsection [(j)] (h) of this section relating to
3850 denial of applications for certification. Applicants who have taught
3851 under an appropriate certificate issued by another state, territory or
3852 possession of the United States or the District of Columbia or the
3853 Commonwealth of Puerto Rico for three or more years shall be exempt
3854 from completing the beginning educator program based upon such
3855 teaching experience. An applicant with three or more years of teaching
3856 experience in this state in the past ten years shall be exempt from
3857 completing the beginning educator program based upon such teaching
3858 experience.

3859 [(i)] (g) (1) For certified employees of local and regional boards of
3860 education or nonpublic schools, except as provided in this subdivision,
3861 each professional educator certificate shall be valid for five years and
3862 continued every five years thereafter. [upon the successful completion
3863 of professional development activities which shall consist of not less
3864 than ninety hours of continuing education, as determined by the
3865 employing local or regional board of education or the employing
3866 supervisory agent of a nonpublic school approved by the State Board
3867 of Education in accordance with this section, or documented
3868 completion of a national board certification assessment in the
3869 appropriate endorsement area, during each successive five-year
3870 period. (A) Such continuing education completed by certified
3871 employees with an early childhood nursery through grade three or an
3872 elementary endorsement who hold a position requiring such an
3873 endorsement shall include at least fifteen hours of training in the
3874 teaching of reading and reading readiness and assessment of reading
3875 performance, including methods of teaching language skills necessary
3876 for reading, reading comprehension skills, phonics and the structure of
3877 the English language during each five-year period. (B) Such continuing
3878 education requirement completed by certified employees with

3879 elementary, middle grades or secondary academic endorsements who
3880 hold a position requiring such an endorsement shall include at least
3881 fifteen hours of training in the use of computers in the classroom
3882 during each five-year period unless such employees are able to
3883 demonstrate technology competency, in a manner determined by their
3884 local or regional board of education, based on state-wide standards for
3885 teacher competency in the use of technology for instructional purposes
3886 adopted pursuant to section 4d-85. (C) Such continuing education
3887 completed by (i) the superintendent of schools, and (ii) employees
3888 employed in positions requiring an intermediate administrator or
3889 supervisory certificate, or the equivalent thereof, and whose
3890 administrative or supervisory duties equal at least fifty per cent of
3891 their assigned time, shall include at least fifteen hours of training in the
3892 evaluation of teachers pursuant to section 10-151b during each five-
3893 year period. (D) In the case of certified employees with a bilingual
3894 education endorsement who hold positions requiring such an
3895 endorsement (i) in an elementary school and who do not hold an
3896 endorsement in elementary education, such continuing education
3897 taken on or after July 1, 1999, shall only count toward the ninety-hour
3898 requirement if it is in language arts, reading and mathematics, and (ii)
3899 in a middle or secondary school and who do not hold an endorsement
3900 in the subject area they teach, such continuing education taken on or
3901 after July 1, 1999, shall only count toward the ninety-hour requirement
3902 if it is in such subject area or areas. On and after July 1, 2011, such
3903 continuing education shall be as determined by the local or regional
3904 board of education in full consideration of the provisions of this
3905 section and the priorities and needs related to student outcomes as
3906 determined by the State Board of Education. During each five-year
3907 period in which a professional educator certificate is valid, a holder of
3908 such certificate who has not completed the ninety hours of continuing
3909 education required pursuant to this subdivision, and who has not been
3910 employed while holding such certificate by a local or regional board of
3911 education for all or part of the five-year period, shall, upon
3912 application, be reissued such certificate for five years minus any period
3913 of time such holder was employed while holding such certificate by a

3914 local or regional board of education, provided there shall be only one
3915 such reissuance during each five-year period in which such certificate
3916 is valid. A certified employee of a local or regional board of education
3917 who is a member of the General Assembly and who has not completed
3918 the ninety hours of continuing education required pursuant to this
3919 subdivision for continuation of a certificate, upon application, shall be
3920 reissued a professional educator certificate for a period of time equal to
3921 six months for each year the employee served in the General Assembly
3922 during the previous five years. Continuing education hours completed
3923 during the previous five years shall be applied toward such ninety-
3924 hour requirement which shall be completed during the reissuance
3925 period in order for such employee to be eligible to have a certificate
3926 continued. The cost of the professional development activities required
3927 under this subsection for certified employees of local or regional
3928 boards of education shall be shared by the state and local or regional
3929 boards of education, except for those activities identified by the State
3930 Board of Education as the responsibility of the certificate holder.]

3931 (2) (A) Each certified employee shall participate in a program of
3932 professional development, as described in this subdivision. Each local
3933 and regional board of education shall make available, annually, at no
3934 cost to its certified employees, a program of professional development
3935 that is not fewer than eighteen hours [of professional development
3936 activities for continuing education credit] in length, of which a
3937 preponderance is in a small group or individual instructional setting.
3938 Such activities may be made available by a board of education directly,
3939 through a regional educational service center or cooperative
3940 arrangement with another board of education or through
3941 arrangements with any continuing education provider approved by
3942 the [State Board] Commissioner of Education. Local and regional
3943 boards of education shall [grant continuing education credit for] offer
3944 professional development activities [which the certified employees of
3945 the board of education are required to attend, professional
3946 development activities offered] in accordance with the plan developed
3947 pursuant to subsection (b) of section 10-220a, or professional
3948 development activities which the board may approve for any

3949 individual certified employee. [Each board of education shall
3950 determine the specific professional development activities to be made
3951 available] Professional development opportunities shall include,
3952 whenever possible and appropriate, opportunities to improve the
3953 integration of reading instruction, literacy and numeracy
3954 enhancement, cultural awareness and strategies to improve English
3955 language learner instruction into teachers' instructional practice and
3956 shall be (i) determined by each board of education with the advice and
3957 assistance of the teachers employed by such board, including
3958 representatives of the exclusive bargaining unit for such teachers
3959 pursuant to section 10-153b, and on and after July 1, 2011, in full
3960 consideration of priorities and needs related to student outcomes as
3961 determined by the State Board of Education, and (ii) used as an
3962 opportunity for professional growth and to improve teacher practice
3963 based on general results and findings from teacher evaluations
3964 reported by the superintendent of schools, or the superintendent's
3965 designee. Professional development completed by the superintendent
3966 of schools and administrators, as defined in section 10-144e, shall
3967 include at least fifteen hours of training in the evaluation and support
3968 of teachers under the teacher evaluation program pursuant to section
3969 10-151b, as amended by this act, during each five-year period. The
3970 time and location for the provision of such activities shall be in
3971 accordance with either an agreement between the board of education
3972 and the exclusive bargaining unit pursuant to said section 10-153b or,
3973 in the absence of such agreement or to the extent such agreement does
3974 not provide for the time and location of all such activities, in
3975 accordance with a determination by the board of education.

3976 [(2)] (B) Each local and regional board of education or supervisory
3977 agent of a nonpublic school approved by the State Board of Education
3978 shall attest to the state Department of Education, in such form and at
3979 such time as the commissioner shall prescribe, that professional
3980 development activities [for which continuing education credit is
3981 granted by the board] required by this subdivision: [(A)] (i) Are
3982 planned in response to identified needs, [(B)] (ii) are provided by
3983 qualified instructional personnel, as appropriate, [(C)] (iii) have the

3984 requirements for participation in the activity shared with participants
3985 before the commencement of the activity, [(D)] (iv) are evaluated in
3986 terms of its effectiveness and its contribution to the attainment of
3987 school or district-wide goals, and [(E)] (v) are documented in
3988 accordance with procedures established by the State Board of
3989 Education. [At the end of each five-year period each professional
3990 educator shall attest to the state Department of Education, in such
3991 form and at such time as the commissioner shall prescribe, that the
3992 professional educator has successfully completed ninety hours of
3993 continuing education.]

3994 [(3)] (C) In the event that the state Department of Education notifies
3995 the local or regional board of education that the provisions of
3996 [subdivision (2) of this subsection] subparagraph (B) of this
3997 subdivision have not been met and that specific corrective action is
3998 necessary, the local or regional board of education shall take such
3999 corrective action immediately. [The department shall not invalidate
4000 continuing education credit awarded prior to such notice.]

4001 (D) The Department of Education shall conduct audits of the
4002 professional development programs provided by local and regional
4003 boards of education required by this subdivision. If the State Board of
4004 Education determines, based on such audit, that a local or regional
4005 board of education is not in compliance with any provision of this
4006 subdivision, the State Board of Education may require the local or
4007 regional board of education to forfeit of the total sum which is paid to
4008 such board of education from the State Treasury an amount to be
4009 determined by the State Board of Education. The amount so forfeited
4010 shall be withheld from a grant payment, as determined by the
4011 Commissioner of Education, during the fiscal year following the fiscal
4012 year in which noncompliance is determined pursuant to this
4013 subdivision. Notwithstanding the penalty provision of this
4014 subdivision, the State Board of Education may waive such forfeiture if
4015 the board determines that the failure of the local or regional board of
4016 education to comply with such a provision was due to circumstances
4017 beyond its control.

4018 (E) For purposes of this subdivision, such program of professional
4019 development shall (i) be a comprehensive, sustained and intensive
4020 approach to improving teacher and administrator effectiveness in
4021 raising student achievement, (ii) foster collective responsibility for
4022 improved student performance, and (iii) be comprised of professional
4023 learning that (I) is aligned with rigorous state student academic
4024 achievement standards, (II) is conducted among educators at the
4025 school and facilitated by principals, coaches, mentors, master teachers
4026 or other lead teachers, and (III) occurs frequently on an individual
4027 basis or among groups of teachers in a job-embedded process of
4028 continuous improvement.

4029 [(j)] (h) (1) The State Board of Education may revoke any certificate,
4030 authorization or permit issued pursuant to sections 10-144o to 10-149,
4031 inclusive, as amended by this act, for any of the following reasons: (A)
4032 The holder of the certificate, authorization or permit obtained such
4033 certificate, authorization or permit through fraud or misrepresentation
4034 of a material fact; (B) the holder has persistently neglected to perform
4035 the duties for which the certificate, authorization or permit was
4036 granted; (C) the holder is professionally unfit to perform the duties for
4037 which the certificate, authorization or permit was granted; (D) the
4038 holder is convicted in a court of law of a crime involving moral
4039 turpitude or of any other crime of such nature that in the opinion of
4040 the board continued holding of a certificate, authorization or permit by
4041 the person would impair the standing of certificates, authorizations or
4042 permits issued by the board; or (E) other due and sufficient cause. The
4043 State Board of Education shall revoke any certificate, authorization or
4044 permit issued pursuant to said sections if the holder is found to have
4045 intentionally disclosed specific questions or answers to students or
4046 otherwise improperly breached the security of any administration of a
4047 state-wide examination pursuant to section 10-14n. In any revocation
4048 proceeding pursuant to this section, the State Board of Education shall
4049 have the burden of establishing the reason for such revocation by a
4050 preponderance of the evidence. Revocation shall be in accordance with
4051 procedures established by the State Board of Education pursuant to
4052 chapter 54.

4053 (2) When the Commissioner of Education is notified, pursuant to
4054 section 10-149a or 17a-101i, as amended by this act, that a person
4055 holding a certificate, authorization or permit issued by the State Board
4056 of Education under the provisions of sections 10-144o to 10-149,
4057 inclusive, as amended by this act, has been convicted of (A) a capital
4058 felony, pursuant to section 53a-54b, (B) arson murder, pursuant to
4059 section 53a-54d, (C) a class A felony, (D) a class B felony, except a
4060 violation of section 53a-122, 53a-252 or 53a-291, (E) a crime involving
4061 an act of child abuse or neglect as described in section 46b-120, or (F) a
4062 violation of section 53-21, 53-37a, 53a-60b, 53a-60c, 53a-71, 53a-72a, 53a-
4063 72b, 53a-73a, 53a-88, 53a-90a, 53a-99, 53a-103a, 53a-181c, 53a-191, 53a-
4064 196, 53a-196c, 53a-216, 53a-217b or 21a-278 or subsection (a) of section
4065 21a-277, any certificate, permit or authorization issued by the State
4066 Board of Education and held by such person shall be deemed revoked
4067 and the commissioner shall notify such person of such revocation,
4068 provided such person may request reconsideration pursuant to
4069 regulations adopted by the State Board of Education, in accordance
4070 with the provisions of chapter 54. As part of such reconsideration
4071 process, the board shall make the initial determination as to whether to
4072 uphold or overturn the revocation. The commissioner shall make the
4073 final determination as to whether to uphold or overturn the
4074 revocation.

4075 (3) The State Board of Education may deny an application for a
4076 certificate, authorization or permit for any of the following reasons: (A)
4077 The applicant seeks to obtain a certificate, authorization or permit
4078 through fraud or misrepresentation of a material fact; (B) the applicant
4079 has been convicted in a court of law of a crime involving moral
4080 turpitude or of any other crime of such nature that in the opinion of
4081 the board issuance of a certificate, authorization or permit would
4082 impair the standing of certificates, authorizations or permits issued by
4083 the board; or (C) other due and sufficient cause. Any applicant denied
4084 a certificate, authorization or permit shall be notified in writing of the
4085 reasons for denial. Any applicant denied a certificate, authorization or
4086 permit may request a review of such denial by the State Board of
4087 Education.

4088 (4) A person whose certificate, permit or authorization has been
4089 revoked may not be employed in a public school during the period of
4090 revocation.

4091 (5) Any local or regional board of education or private special
4092 education facility approved by the commissioner shall report to the
4093 commissioner when an employee, who holds a certificate, permit or
4094 authorization, is dismissed pursuant to subdivision (3) of subsection
4095 (d) of section 10-151, as amended by this act.

4096 [(k)] (i) Not later than thirty days after receipt of notification, any
4097 initial educator certificate holder who is not granted a [provisional
4098 educator certificate, or any provisional educator certificate holder who
4099 is not granted a] professional educator certificate, or any professional
4100 educator certificate holder who is not granted a continuation, under
4101 the provisions of sections 10-145a to 10-145d, inclusive, as amended by
4102 this act, and 10-146b, may appeal to the State Board of Education for
4103 reconsideration. Said board shall review the records of the appropriate
4104 certification period, and, if a hearing is requested in writing, hold such
4105 hearing not later than sixty days after such request and render a
4106 written decision not later than thirty days after the conclusion of such
4107 hearing. Any teacher aggrieved by the decision of said board may
4108 appeal from such decision in accordance with the provisions of section
4109 4-183 and such appeal shall be privileged with respect to assignment of
4110 such appeal.

4111 [(l)] (j) For the purposes of this section "supervisory agent" means
4112 the superintendent of schools or the principal, administrator or
4113 supervisor designated by such superintendent to provide direct
4114 supervision to a provisional certificate holder.

4115 [(m)] (k) Upon application to the State Board of Education for the
4116 issuance of any certificate in accordance with this section and section
4117 10-145d there shall be paid to the board by or on behalf of the
4118 applicant a nonreturnable fee of two hundred dollars in the case of an
4119 applicant for an initial educator certificate, two hundred [fifty dollars
4120 in the case of an applicant for a provisional educator certificate and

4121 three hundred seventy-five] dollars in the case of an applicant for a
4122 professional educator certificate, except that applicants for certificates
4123 for teaching adult education programs mandated under subdivision
4124 (1) of subsection (a) of section 10-69 shall pay a fee of one hundred
4125 dollars; persons eligible for a certificate or endorsement for which the
4126 fee is less than that applied for shall receive an appropriate refund;
4127 persons not eligible for any certificate shall receive a refund of the
4128 application fee minus fifty dollars; and persons holding standard or
4129 permanent certificates on July 1, 1989, who apply for professional
4130 certificates to replace the standard or permanent certificates, shall not
4131 be required to pay such a fee. Upon application to the State Board of
4132 Education for the issuance of a subject area endorsement there shall be
4133 paid to the board by or on behalf of such applicant a nonreturnable fee
4134 of one hundred dollars. With each request for a duplicate copy of any
4135 such certificate or endorsement there shall be paid to the board a
4136 nonreturnable fee of fifty dollars. The Commissioner of Education
4137 may, upon request by the applicant, waive any fee required under this
4138 subsection if the commissioner determines that the applicant is unable
4139 to pay such fee due to extenuating circumstances.

4140 Sec. 63. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2014*) (a) The State Board of
4141 Education shall award, upon receipt of a proper application, a
4142 distinguished educator designation to any person who (1) has
4143 successfully completed not less than five years of teaching in a public
4144 school or private special education facility approved by the State Board
4145 of Education, (2) holds a professional educator certificate, pursuant to
4146 section 10-145b of the general statutes, as amended by this act, (3) has
4147 additional, advanced education beyond a master's degree from a
4148 degree or non-degree granting institution in areas to include, but not
4149 be limited to, mentorship or coaching of teachers, and (4) meets the
4150 performance requirements established by the Department of Education
4151 with consideration to the demonstration of distinguished practice as
4152 validated by the department or an entity approved by the department.

4153 (b) Such designation shall be renewed every five years after
4154 issuance upon the demonstration that such person meets performance

4155 requirements established by the department with consideration to the
4156 demonstration of distinguished practice as validated by the
4157 department or an entity approved by the department.

4158 (c) Upon application to the State Board of Education for the
4159 designation as a distinguished educator there shall be paid to the
4160 board by or on behalf of the applicant a nonreturnable fee of two
4161 hundred dollars. With each request for a duplicate copy of such
4162 designation there shall be paid to the board a nonreturnable fee of fifty
4163 dollars. The Commissioner of Education may, upon request by the
4164 applicant, waive any fee required under this subsection if the
4165 commissioner determines that the applicant is unable to pay such fee
4166 due to extenuating circumstances.

4167 Sec. 64. Section 10-153d of the general statutes is repealed and the
4168 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):

4169 (a) Within thirty days prior to the date on which the local or
4170 regional board of education is to commence negotiations pursuant to
4171 this section, such board of education shall meet and confer with the
4172 board of finance in each town or city having a board of finance, with
4173 the board of selectmen in each town having no board of finance and
4174 otherwise with the authority making appropriations therein. A
4175 member of such board of finance, such board of selectmen, or such
4176 other authority making appropriations, shall be permitted to be
4177 present during negotiations pursuant to this section and shall provide
4178 such fiscal information as may be requested by the board of education.

4179 (b) The local or regional board of education and the organization
4180 designated or elected as the exclusive representative for the
4181 appropriate unit, through designated officials or their representatives,
4182 shall have the duty to negotiate with respect to salaries, hours and
4183 other conditions of employment about which either party wishes to
4184 negotiate. For purposes of this subsection and sections 10-153a, 10-
4185 153b and 10-153e to 10-153g, inclusive, (1) "hours" shall not include the
4186 length of the student school year, the scheduling of the student school
4187 year, the length of the student school day, the length and number of

4188 parent-teacher conferences and the scheduling of the student school
4189 day, except for the length and the scheduling of teacher lunch periods
4190 and teacher preparation periods and (2) "other conditions of
4191 employment" shall not include the establishment or provisions of any
4192 retirement incentive plan authorized by section 10-183jj. Such
4193 negotiations shall commence not less than two hundred ten days prior
4194 to the budget submission date. Any local board of education shall file
4195 forthwith a signed copy of any contract with the town clerk and with
4196 the Commissioner of Education. Any regional board of education shall
4197 file forthwith a signed copy of any such contract with the town clerk in
4198 each member town and with the Commissioner of Education. Upon
4199 receipt of a signed copy of such contract the clerk of such town shall
4200 give public notice of such filing. The terms of such contract shall be
4201 binding on the legislative body of the local or regional school district,
4202 unless such body rejects such contract at a regular or special meeting
4203 called and convened for such purpose within thirty days of the filing
4204 of the contract. If a vote on such contract is petitioned for in accordance
4205 with the provisions of section 7-7, in order to reject such contract, a
4206 minimum number of those persons eligible to vote equal to fifteen per
4207 cent of the electors of such local or regional school district shall be
4208 required to participate in the voting and a majority of those voting
4209 shall be required to reject. Any regional board of education shall call a
4210 district meeting to consider such contract within such thirty-day
4211 period if the chief executive officer of any member town so requests in
4212 writing within fifteen days of the receipt of the signed copy of the
4213 contract by the town clerk in such town. The body charged with
4214 making annual appropriations in any school district shall appropriate
4215 to the board of education whatever funds are required to implement
4216 the terms of any contract not rejected pursuant to this section. All
4217 organizations seeking to represent members of the teaching profession
4218 shall be accorded equal treatment with respect to access to teachers,
4219 principals, members of the board of education, records, mail boxes and
4220 school facilities and, in the absence of any recognition or certification
4221 as the exclusive representative as provided by section 10-153b,
4222 participation in discussions with respect to salaries, hours and other

4223 conditions of employment.

4224 (c) If the legislative body rejects the contract pursuant to the
4225 provisions of subsection (b) of this section, the parties shall commence
4226 the arbitration process, in accordance with the provisions of subsection
4227 (c) of section 10-153f, on the fifth day next following the rejection
4228 which, for the purposes of this procedure, shall serve as the equivalent
4229 of the one hundred thirty-fifth day prior to the budget submission
4230 date, provided, if requested by either party, the parties shall mediate
4231 the contract dispute prior to the initial arbitration hearing. The parties
4232 shall meet with a mediator mutually selected by them, provided such
4233 parties shall inform the commissioner of the name of such mediator. If
4234 the parties are unable to mutually select a mediator, then the parties
4235 shall meet with the commissioner or the commissioner's agent or a
4236 mediator designated by said commissioner. Mediators shall be chosen
4237 from a panel of mediators selected by the State Board of Education or
4238 from outside such panel if mutually agreed by the parties. Such
4239 mediators shall receive a per diem fee determined on the basis of the
4240 prevailing rate for such services, and the parties shall share equally in
4241 the cost of such mediation. In any civil or criminal case, any
4242 proceeding preliminary thereto, or in any legislative or administrative
4243 proceeding, a mediator shall not disclose any confidential
4244 communication made to such mediator in the course of mediation
4245 unless the party making such communication waives such privilege.
4246 The parties shall provide such information as the commissioner may
4247 require. The commissioner may recommend a basis for settlement but
4248 such recommendations shall not be binding upon the parties.

4249 (d) Through negotiations for collective bargaining agreements
4250 effective on and after July 1, 2014, local and regional boards of
4251 education may negotiate additional compensation for teachers who
4252 have received a distinguished educator designation, pursuant to
4253 section 63 of this act, and who are performing additional
4254 responsibilities associated with such designation. Such districts may
4255 also establish new salary schedules that align compensation for the
4256 initial and professional certificate levels as well as other factors.

4257 Negotiations under this subsection shall be conducted in accordance
4258 with the provisions of this section, except that such negotiations may
4259 be conducted in accordance with subsection (e) of section 10-153f if the
4260 local or regional board of education and the exclusive bargaining
4261 representative for teachers would not otherwise be in negotiations
4262 under this section.

4263 Sec. 65. Section 10-145f of the 2012 supplement to the general
4264 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
4265 (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

4266 (a) No person shall be formally admitted to a State Board of
4267 Education approved teacher preparation program until such person
4268 has achieved satisfactory scores on the state reading, writing and
4269 mathematics competency examination prescribed by and administered
4270 under the direction of the State Board of Education, or has qualified for
4271 a waiver of such test based on criteria established by the State Board of
4272 Education.

4273 (b) (1) Any person who does not hold a valid certificate pursuant to
4274 section 10-145b, as amended by this act, shall (A) achieve satisfactory
4275 scores on the state reading, writing and mathematics competency
4276 examination prescribed by and administered under the direction of the
4277 State Board of Education, or qualify for a waiver of such test based on
4278 criteria approved by the State Board of Education, and (B) achieve a
4279 satisfactory evaluation on the appropriate State Board of Education
4280 approved subject area assessment in order to be eligible for a certificate
4281 pursuant to said section unless such assessment has not been approved
4282 by the State Board of Education at the time of application, in which
4283 case the applicant shall not be denied a certificate solely because of the
4284 lack of an evaluation on such assessment. A person who holds a valid
4285 school administrator certificate in another state that is at least
4286 equivalent to an initial educator certificate, pursuant to section 10-
4287 145b, as amended by this act, as determined by the State Board of
4288 Education, and has successfully completed three years of experience as
4289 a school administrator in a public school in another state or in a

4290 nonpublic school approved by the appropriate state board of
4291 education during the ten-year period prior to the date of application
4292 for a certificate in a school administration endorsement area shall not
4293 be required to meet the state reading, writing and mathematics
4294 competency examination.

4295 (2) Any person applying for an additional certification endorsement
4296 shall achieve a satisfactory evaluation on the appropriate State Board
4297 of Education approved subject area assessment in order to be eligible
4298 for such additional endorsement, unless such assessment has not been
4299 approved by the State Board of Education at the time of application, in
4300 which case the applicant shall not be denied the additional
4301 endorsement solely because of the lack of an evaluation on such
4302 assessment.

4303 (3) On and after July 1, 1992, any teacher who held a valid teaching
4304 certificate but whose certificate lapsed and who had completed all
4305 requirements for the issuance of a new certificate pursuant to section
4306 10-145b, as amended by this act, except for filing an application for
4307 such certificate, prior to the date on which the lapse occurred, may file,
4308 within one year of the date on which the lapse occurred, an application
4309 with the Commissioner of Education for the issuance of such
4310 certificate. Upon the filing of such an application, the commissioner
4311 may grant such certificate and such certificate shall be retroactive to
4312 the date on which the lapse occurred, provided the commissioner finds
4313 that the lapse of the certificate occurred as a result of a hardship or
4314 extenuating circumstances beyond the control of the applicant. If such
4315 teacher has attained tenure and is reemployed by the same board of
4316 education in any equivalent unfilled position for which the person is
4317 qualified as a result of the issuance of a certificate pursuant to this
4318 subdivision, the lapse period shall not constitute a break in
4319 employment for such person reemployed and shall be used for the
4320 purpose of calculating continuous employment pursuant to section 10-
4321 151, as amended by this act. If such teacher has not attained tenure, the
4322 time unemployed due to the lapse of a certificate shall not be counted
4323 toward tenure, except that if such teacher is reemployed by the same

4324 board of education as a result of the issuance of a certificate pursuant
4325 to this subdivision, such teacher may count the previous continuous
4326 employment immediately prior to the lapse towards tenure. Using
4327 information provided by the Teachers' Retirement Board, the
4328 Department of Education shall annually notify each local or regional
4329 board of education of the name of each teacher employed by such
4330 board of education whose provisional certificate will expire during the
4331 period of twelve months following such notice. Upon receipt of such
4332 notice the superintendent of each local and regional board of education
4333 shall notify each such teacher in writing, at such teacher's last known
4334 address, that the teacher's provisional certificate will expire.

4335 (4) Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection to the
4336 contrary, to be eligible for a certificate to teach subjects for which a
4337 bachelor's degree is not required, any applicant who is otherwise
4338 eligible for certification in such endorsement areas shall be entitled to a
4339 certificate without having met the requirements of the competency
4340 examination and subject area assessment pursuant to this subsection
4341 for a period not to exceed two years, except that for a certificate to
4342 teach skilled trades or trade-related or occupational subjects, the
4343 commissioner may waive the requirement that the applicant take the
4344 competency examination. The commissioner may, upon the showing
4345 of good cause, extend the certificate.

4346 (5) On and after July 1, 2011, any person applying for a certification
4347 in the endorsement area of elementary education shall achieve a
4348 satisfactory evaluation on the appropriate State Board of Education
4349 approved mathematics assessment in order to be eligible for such
4350 elementary education endorsement.

4351 (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section and section 10-
4352 145b, as amended by this act, the following persons shall be eligible for
4353 a nonrenewable [temporary] initial educator certificate: (1) A person
4354 who has resided in a state other than Connecticut during the year
4355 immediately preceding application for certification in Connecticut and
4356 meets the requirements for certification, excluding successful

4357 completion of the competency examination and subject matter
4358 assessment, if such person holds current teacher certification in a state
4359 other than Connecticut and has completed at least one year of
4360 successful teaching in another state in a public school or a nonpublic
4361 school approved by the appropriate state board of education, (2) a
4362 person who has graduated from a teacher preparation program at a
4363 college or university outside of the state and regionally accredited, and
4364 meets the requirements for certification, excluding successful
4365 completion of the competency examination and subject matter
4366 assessment, and (3) a person hired by a charter school after July first in
4367 any school year for a teaching position that school year, provided the
4368 person hired after said date could reasonably be expected to complete
4369 the requirements prescribed in subparagraphs [(B)] (A) and [(C)] (B) of
4370 subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 10-145b, as amended by this
4371 act. The nonrenewable [temporary] initial educator certificate shall be
4372 valid for one year from the date it is issued.

4373 [(d) Any person who is first issued a certificate valid after July 1,
4374 1989, or who is reissued a certificate after July 1, 1989, shall, except as
4375 otherwise provided in this subsection, be required to achieve a
4376 satisfactory evaluation on a professional knowledge clinical
4377 assessment not later than the end of the second year of teaching in a
4378 public school if hired prior to January first or, if hired on or after
4379 January first, not later than the end of the second full school year of
4380 teaching following the year in which such person was hired in order to
4381 retain the certificate. The commissioner (1) may waive the requirement
4382 that such satisfactory evaluation on a professional knowledge clinical
4383 assessment be achieved upon a determination that such assessment is
4384 not valid for the person's teaching assignment, or (2) upon a showing
4385 of good cause, may extend the time limit for the assessment for a
4386 period of time not exceeding two years. The requirement of a clinical
4387 assessment shall not apply to any such person who has completed at
4388 least three years of successful teaching in a public school or a
4389 nonpublic school approved by the appropriate state board of
4390 education during the ten years immediately preceding the date of
4391 application or who successfully taught with a provisional teaching

4392 certificate during the year immediately preceding an application for a
4393 provisional educator certificate as an employee of a local or regional
4394 board of education or facility approved for special education by the
4395 State Board of Education. Notwithstanding the provisions of this
4396 subsection, the State Board of Education may reissue an initial
4397 educator certificate to a person who held such certificate and did not
4398 achieve a satisfactory evaluation on a professional knowledge clinical
4399 assessment provided the person submits evidence demonstrating
4400 significant intervening study and experience, in accordance with
4401 standards established by the State Board of Education.]

4402 [(e)] (d) The board shall, by regulation, set all fees to be charged to
4403 each person who applies to take the State Board of Education
4404 administered competency examination, the subject area assessment or
4405 the professional knowledge clinical assessment, which shall be not less
4406 than seventy-five dollars for the competency examination and subject
4407 area assessment for the elementary level. Notwithstanding the
4408 provisions of this section to the contrary, the Commissioner of
4409 Education may waive any fee under this section due to a candidate's
4410 inability to pay.

4411 [(f)] (e) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, any person
4412 who holds a valid teaching certificate that is at least equivalent to an
4413 initial educator certificate, as determined by the State Board of
4414 Education, and such certificate is issued by a state other than
4415 Connecticut in the subject area or endorsement area for which such
4416 person is seeking certification in Connecticut shall not be required to
4417 successfully complete the competency examination and subject matter
4418 assessment pursuant to this section, if such person has either (1)
4419 successfully completed at least three years of teaching experience in
4420 the subject area for which such person is seeking certification in
4421 Connecticut in the past ten years in a public school or a nonpublic
4422 school approved by the appropriate state board of education in such
4423 other state, or (2) holds a master's degree or higher in the subject area
4424 for which such person is seeking certification in Connecticut.

4425 Sec. 66. Subsection (c) of section 10-145h of the general statutes is
4426 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
4427 *1, 2014*):

4428 (c) On and after July 1, 2000, the State Board of Education shall
4429 require bilingual education teachers [holding provisional educator
4430 certificates] to meet the requirements of this subsection in order to
4431 qualify for a professional educator certificate to teach bilingual
4432 education. (1) Such bilingual education teachers who teach on the
4433 elementary level shall take fifteen credit hours in bilingual education
4434 and fifteen credit hours in language arts, reading and mathematics. (2)
4435 Such bilingual education teachers who teach on the middle or
4436 secondary level shall take fifteen credit hours in bilingual education
4437 and fifteen credit hours in the subject matter that they teach. Such
4438 professional educator certificate shall be valid for bilingual education
4439 and the grade level and content area of preparation.

4440 Sec. 67. Subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 10-145o of the
4441 2012 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following
4442 is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

4443 (1) The Department of Education shall (A) develop a statement for
4444 the teacher education and mentoring program that includes the state's
4445 goals for state-wide teacher induction, mentoring, professional
4446 development and evaluation, using state-wide data and national
4447 research findings; (B) distribute state funding to local and regional
4448 school districts to assist with implementation of district teacher
4449 education and mentoring plans; (C) manage and make accessible to
4450 local and regional school districts the data systems needed to
4451 document that teachers and mentors have satisfactorily completed the
4452 instructional modules; (D) monitor district implementation of the
4453 teacher education and mentoring program to ensure fidelity to the
4454 program's plan and goals, including random district audits and
4455 observations by state personnel; [(E) issue provisional educator
4456 certificates to teachers that have satisfactorily completed the induction
4457 program; (F)] (E) develop guidelines for the creation and approval of

4458 district teacher education and mentoring plans, based on input and
4459 recommendations from stakeholder groups; and [(G)] (F) oversee an
4460 outside evaluation of the teacher education and mentoring program
4461 every three to five years;

4462 Sec. 68. Subdivision (3) of subsection (e) of section 10-145o of the
4463 2012 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following
4464 is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

4465 (3) Upon successful completion of the instructional modules and
4466 final review by the coordinating committee, the superintendent of the
4467 school district shall submit the names of the beginning teachers
4468 [eligible for receipt of a provisional educator certificate] who have
4469 successfully completed such instructional modules to the State Board
4470 of Education.

4471 Sec. 69. Subsection (f) of section 10-145o of the 2012 supplement to
4472 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
4473 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

4474 (f) Local and regional boards of education, in cooperation with the
4475 Department of Education, institutions of higher education and regional
4476 educational service centers, shall recruit mentors for their teacher
4477 education and mentoring program. Those persons eligible to serve as
4478 mentors for such programs shall hold a [provisional educator
4479 certificate or a] professional educator certificate or a distinguished
4480 educator designation, pursuant to section 63 of this act, and have at
4481 least three years teaching experience in Connecticut, including at least
4482 one year of experience in the district in which they are presently
4483 employed. Retired certified teachers may also serve as mentors,
4484 provided they successfully complete a mentor training program
4485 offered by a regional educational service center. Each mentor shall be
4486 assigned two beginning teachers, except that in certain circumstances,
4487 a mentor may be assigned three beginning teachers. Such assignment
4488 shall be reflected in each district's three-year plan. Each mentor shall
4489 provide fifty contact hours to each beginning teacher during the
4490 program, with the expectation of approximately ten contact hours per

4491 module. Mentors shall receive a minimum of a five-hundred-dollar
4492 annual stipend for each beginning teacher assigned to such mentor
4493 from the local or regional board of education for participation in the
4494 teacher education and mentoring program. Such stipend shall be
4495 included in a person's total earnings for purposes of retirement.

4496 Sec. 70. Subsection (a) of section 10-146b of the general statutes is
4497 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
4498 *1, 2014*):

4499 (a) Any person who holds a provisional educator or provisional
4500 teaching certificate issued prior to July 1, 2014, or held such certificate
4501 within one year of application for extension of such certificate and is
4502 unable to complete the requirements for a professional educator
4503 certificate within the period required, or any person who holds a
4504 professional educator certificate or held such certificate within one
4505 year of application for extension of such certificate and is unable to
4506 complete the requirements for continuation of such professional
4507 educator certificate within the period required may appeal to the
4508 commissioner for an extension of the applicable period for good cause.
4509 If the commissioner finds a hardship exists in the case of such person
4510 or finds an emergency situation because of a shortage of certified
4511 teachers in the school district where such person is employed, the
4512 commissioner may extend such certificate for no more than twenty-
4513 four months, effective as of or retroactive to the expiration date of such
4514 certificate, provided not more than one extension shall be granted to
4515 such person and, provided further, the record of such person is
4516 satisfactory under the provisions of sections 10-145a to 10-145d,
4517 inclusive, as amended by this act, and this section. For the purposes of
4518 section 10-151, as amended by this act, any lapse period pursuant to
4519 this section shall not constitute a break in employment for such person
4520 if reemployed and shall be used for the purpose of calculating
4521 continuous employment.

4522 Sec. 71. Subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of section 10-66dd of the
4523 2012 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following

4524 is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

4525 (2) Subject to the provisions of subdivision (5) of this subsection, at
4526 least one-half of the persons providing instruction or pupil services in
4527 a charter school shall possess the proper certificate other than [(A) a
4528 certificate issued pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of
4529 section 10-145b, or (B) a temporary] an initial educator certificate
4530 issued pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-145f, as amended by this
4531 act, on the day the school begins operation and the remaining persons
4532 shall possess a certificate issued pursuant to said subdivision (1) or
4533 such temporary certificate on such day.

4534 Sec. 72. Subsection (a) of section 10-145a of the 2012 supplement to
4535 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
4536 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

4537 (a) The State Board of Education may, in accordance with section 10-
4538 19 and such regulations and qualifications as it prescribes, issue
4539 certificates of qualification to teach, to administer, to supervise or to
4540 serve in other positions requiring certification pursuant to regulations
4541 adopted by the State Board of Education in any public school in the
4542 state and may revoke the same. Any such regulations shall provide
4543 that the qualifications to maintain any administrator, supervisor or
4544 special service certificate shall incorporate the [continuing education]
4545 professional development provisions of subsection [(i)] (g) of section
4546 10-145b, as amended by this act. The certificates of qualification issued
4547 under this section shall be accepted by boards of education in lieu of
4548 any other certificate, provided additional qualifications may be
4549 required by a board of education, in which case the state certificate
4550 shall be accepted for such subjects as it includes.

4551 Sec. 73. Subsection (c) of section 10-149b of the general statutes is
4552 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
4553 *1, 2014*):

4554 (c) The State Board of Education may revoke the coaching permit, in
4555 accordance with the provisions of subsection [(j)] (h) of section 10-

4556 145b, as amended by this act, of any coach found to be in violation of
4557 this section.

4558 Sec. 74. Subsection (b) of section 10-149c of the general statutes is
4559 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
4560 *1, 2014*):

4561 (b) The State Board of Education may revoke the coaching permit, in
4562 accordance with the provisions of subsection [(j)] (h) of section 10-
4563 145b, as amended by this act, of any coach found to be in violation of
4564 this section.

4565 Sec. 75. Subsections (e) to (g), inclusive, of section 10-221d of the
4566 2012 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following
4567 is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

4568 (e) The State Board of Education shall submit, periodically, a
4569 database of applicants for an initial issuance of certificate,
4570 authorization or permit pursuant to sections 10-144o to 10-149,
4571 inclusive, as amended by this act, to the State Police Bureau of
4572 Identification. The State Police Bureau of Identification shall conduct a
4573 state criminal history records check against such database and notify
4574 the State Board of Education of any such applicant who has a criminal
4575 conviction. The State Board of Education shall not issue a certificate,
4576 authorization or permit until it receives and evaluates the results of
4577 such check and may deny an application in accordance with the
4578 provisions of subsection [(j)] (h) of section 10-145b, as amended by this
4579 act.

4580 (f) The State Board of Education shall submit, periodically, a
4581 database of all persons who hold certificates, authorizations or permits
4582 to the State Police Bureau of Identification. The State Police Bureau of
4583 Identification shall conduct a state criminal history records check
4584 against such database and shall notify the State Board of Education of
4585 any such person who has a criminal conviction. The State Board of
4586 Education may revoke the certificate, authorization or permit of such
4587 person in accordance with the provisions of subsection [(j)] (h) of

4588 section 10-145b, as amended by this act.

4589 (g) The State Board of Education shall require each applicant
4590 seeking an initial issuance or renewal of a certificate, authorization or
4591 permit pursuant to sections 10-144o to 10-149, inclusive, as amended
4592 by this act, to submit to a records check of the Department of Children
4593 and Families child abuse and neglect registry established pursuant to
4594 section 17a-101k. If notification is received that the applicant is listed as
4595 a perpetrator of abuse or neglect on the Department of Children and
4596 Families child abuse and neglect registry, the board shall deny an
4597 application for the certificate, authorization or permit in accordance
4598 with the provisions of subsection [(j)] (h) of section 10-145b, as
4599 amended by this act, or may revoke the certificate, authorization or
4600 permit in accordance with the provisions of said subsection [(j)] (h).

4601 Sec. 76. Subsection (a) of section 17a-101i of the 2012 supplement to
4602 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
4603 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

4604 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, after an
4605 investigation has been completed and the Commissioner of Children
4606 and Families, based upon the results of the investigation, (1) has
4607 reasonable cause to believe that a child has been abused or neglected
4608 by a school employee, as defined in section 53a-65, who has been
4609 entrusted with the care of a child and who holds a certificate, permit or
4610 authorization issued by the State Board of Education, or (2) has
4611 recommended that such employee be placed on the Department of
4612 Children and Families child abuse and neglect registry established
4613 pursuant to section 17a-101k, the commissioner shall, not later than
4614 five working days after such finding, notify the employing
4615 superintendent and the Commissioner of Education of such finding
4616 and shall provide records, whether or not created by the department,
4617 concerning such investigation to the superintendent and the
4618 Commissioner of Education. The superintendent shall suspend such
4619 school employee. The Commissioner of Children and Families shall
4620 provide such notice whether or not the child was a student in the

4621 employing school or school district. Such suspension shall be with pay
4622 and shall not result in the diminution or termination of benefits to such
4623 employee. Not later than seventy-two hours after such suspension the
4624 superintendent shall notify the local or regional board of education
4625 and the Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's
4626 representative, of the reasons for and conditions of the suspension. The
4627 superintendent shall disclose such records to the Commissioner of
4628 Education and the local or regional board of education or its attorney
4629 for purposes of review of employment status or the status of such
4630 employee's certificate, permit or authorization. The suspension of a
4631 school employee employed in a position requiring a certificate shall
4632 remain in effect until the board of education acts pursuant to the
4633 provisions of section 10-151, as amended by this act. If the contract of
4634 employment of such certified school employee is terminated, or such
4635 certified school employee resigns such employment, the
4636 superintendent shall notify the Commissioner of Education, or the
4637 commissioner's representative, within seventy-two hours after such
4638 termination or resignation. Upon receipt of such notice from the
4639 superintendent, the Commissioner of Education may commence
4640 certification revocation proceedings pursuant to the provisions of
4641 subsection [(j)] (h) of section 10-145b, as amended by this act.
4642 Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 1-210 and 1-211,
4643 information received by the Commissioner of Education, or the
4644 commissioner's representative, pursuant to this section shall be
4645 confidential subject to regulations adopted by the State Board of
4646 Education under section 10-145g.

4647 Sec. 77. Subsection (d) of section 20-195u of the general statutes is
4648 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
4649 *1, 2014*):

4650 (d) A person licensed pursuant to this chapter who holds a
4651 professional educator certificate that is endorsed for school social work
4652 and issued by the State Board of Education pursuant to sections 10-
4653 144o to 10-149, inclusive, as amended by this act, may satisfy the
4654 [continuing education requirements contained in this section by

4655 successfully completing] professional development [activities]
 4656 requirements pursuant to [subdivision (1) of] subsection [(l)] (g) of
 4657 section 10-145b, as amended by this act. [provided the number of
 4658 continuing education hours completed by such person is equal to the
 4659 number of hours per registration period required by this section.]

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	10-262h(d)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	10-262i(f) and (g)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	10-66ee
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	10-66ll
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	New section
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	10-66bb
Sec. 9	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 10	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 11	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	10-264l(c)
Sec. 12	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	10-65
Sec. 13	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	10-65a
Sec. 14	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	10-76d(e)(4)
Sec. 15	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	New section
Sec. 16	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	10-223e
Sec. 17	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	New section
Sec. 18	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	New section
Sec. 19	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	New section
Sec. 20	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	New section
Sec. 21	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	9-185
Sec. 22	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	10-4s
Sec. 23	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	10-15
Sec. 24	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	10-223f(a)
Sec. 25	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	10-74f
Sec. 26	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	New section
Sec. 27	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	New section
Sec. 28	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	New section
Sec. 29	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	10-266aa(g)
Sec. 30	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	New section
Sec. 31	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	New section

Sec. 32	July 1, 2012	10-16bb(b)
Sec. 33	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 34	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 35	July 1, 2012	10-220d
Sec. 36	July 1, 2012	10-95
Sec. 37	July 1, 2012	10-99g
Sec. 38	July 1, 2012	10-95h
Sec. 39	July 1, 2012	10-97b
Sec. 40	July 1, 2012	4-124gg
Sec. 41	July 1, 2012	10-1
Sec. 42	July 1, 2012	3-20f(b)
Sec. 43	July 1, 2012	10-4r
Sec. 44	July 1, 2012	10-20a(a)
Sec. 45	July 1, 2012	10-95i
Sec. 46	July 1, 2012	10-95k
Sec. 47	July 1, 2012	10-95m
Sec. 48	July 1, 2012	10-96c
Sec. 49	July 1, 2012	10-97a
Sec. 50	July 1, 2012	10-99f
Sec. 51	July 1, 2012	10-215b
Sec. 52	July 1, 2012	10-215f
Sec. 53	July 1, 2012	10-283b(a)
Sec. 54	July 1, 2012	New section
Sec. 55	July 1, 2012	10-157(b) and (c)
Sec. 56	July 1, 2012	10-151
Sec. 57	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 58	<i>from passage</i>	10-151b
Sec. 59	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 60	July 1, 2014	10-144o
Sec. 61	July 1, 2014	10-145a(e)
Sec. 62	July 1, 2014	10-145b
Sec. 63	July 1, 2014	New section
Sec. 64	July 1, 2012	10-153d
Sec. 65	July 1, 2014	10-145f
Sec. 66	July 1, 2014	10-145h(c)
Sec. 67	July 1, 2014	10-145o(b)(1)
Sec. 68	July 1, 2014	10-145o(e)(3)
Sec. 69	July 1, 2014	10-145o(f)
Sec. 70	July 1, 2014	10-146b(a)
Sec. 71	July 1, 2014	10-66dd(b)(2)
Sec. 72	July 1, 2014	10-145a(a)

Sec. 73	July 1, 2014	10-149b(c)
Sec. 74	July 1, 2014	10-149c(b)
Sec. 75	July 1, 2014	10-221d(e) to (g)
Sec. 76	July 1, 2014	17a-101i(a)
Sec. 77	July 1, 2014	20-195u(d)

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In section 3(a)(3) to (6), inclusive, changed the phrase "district mastery test data of record" to "mastery test data of record for the district" for clarity and accuracy. In section 3(a)(7), replaced "on account of" with "by the district for the education of" for clarity. In section 3(b), replaced "conditional funding" with "alliance" and replaced "subdivision (7) of subsection (g) of section 10-262i of the general statutes, as amended by this act" with "subsection (d) of this section" for accuracy and internal consistency. In section 4(d), replaced "refund" with "repay" for clarity and consistency. In section 4(f), replaced "program grants pursuant to" with "programs funded by grants under" for clarity. In section 5(a), inserted brackets around "education" for accuracy. In section 5(c) and 5(n), deleted "education" for accuracy. In section 7(a), replaced "to an eligible applicant, as described in" with "pursuant to" for clarity and accuracy. In section 7(b), revised the first sentence to be in the active voice for clarity. In section 7(c), revised subsection to be in the active voice and deleted subdivision designators for clarity. In section 7(f), deleted "education" for accuracy. In section 8(c)(3)(A), added new clause (vi) re students of a single gender for internal consistency. In section 8(c)(3)(E), deleted clauses (i) to (v), inclusive, and replaced with "described in subparagraph (A)(i) to (A)(vi), inclusive, of this subdivision" for clarity. In section 8(c)(3)(F), inserted opening bracket before "that" and inserted closing bracket after "institutions" and after the closing bracket inserted "such applicant is an institution" for clarity and accuracy. In section 8(d), deleted clauses (i) to (v), inclusive, and replaced with "described in subparagraph (A)(i) to (A)(vi), inclusive, of subdivision (3) of subsection (c) of this section" for clarity. In section 8(j), deleted ", as the case may be," for proper form. In section 10, added "school" before "district" for clarity. In section 16(b), after "students" added "described in subsection (c) of this section" for clarity. In section 17(c)(2)(E), replaced "in February" with "July 1" for accuracy. In section 17(d)(2), replaced "paraprofessional teacher aides" with "paraprofessionals" for accuracy. In section 17(e)(2)(N), replaced "fiscal" with "school" for accuracy. In section 27(a), replaced "to" with "for" and replaced "for" with "to implement" for clarity. In section 27(b), added "in order to implement the program described in

subsection (a) of this section" after "grant award" and replaced "10-262h" with "10-262i" for clarity and accuracy. In section 28(a), (c)(1) and (f), added "as determined by the Commissioner of Education" after "et al" for consistency with the general statutes. In section 28(b), replaced "but such consideration shall not be limited to" with "the following factors" and added new subdivision (5) re any other factor the commissioner deems appropriate for clarity. In section 30(g)(2), added "as follows:" after "met" for clarity. In section 31(a), deleted "a program known as" and added "program" after "Academy" for clarity, and revised the last sentence to avoid the passive voice for clarity. In section 56(b), added "pursuant to subsection (c) of this section" after "superintendent" for clarity. In section 57(d), inserted brackets around "2000" and after the closing bracket added "2012" for accuracy and internal consistency, and deleted opening bracket before "Within" and inserted opening bracket before "thereof" and added "for such consideration of termination." before "Not" for clarity. In section 63(f)(1), deleted brackets around "eight" and deleted "five" for internal consistency. In section 63(f)(2), replaced "from" with "who have taught under an appropriate certificate issued by", deleted "who have taught under an appropriate certificate", deleted "from this state", and inserted "in this state" after "experience" for clarity. In section 68, deleted brackets around "provisional", deleted "professional", inserted opening bracket before "(E)", inserted closing bracket after "(F)" and redesignated subparagraphs accordingly for internal consistency and accuracy.

ED *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 13 \$	FY 14 \$
Education, Dept.; Regional Vocational - Tech. School System, Dept of Public Health, UCONN	GF - See Below	See Below	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 13 \$	FY 14 \$
Local and Regional School Districts	STATE MANDATE - See Below	See Below	See Below

Explanation

Summary:

The bill makes various changes to the education statutes that result in a significant cost to the State Department of Education (SDE).¹ Of the changes contained within the bill, \$97.0 million is included in sHB 5014, the revised FY 13 budget, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee, and \$10.0 million is contained within sSB 25, the revised FY 13 bond package, as favorably reported by the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee. **Table 1A**, below, summarizes the state costs included in the bill that are funded in sHB 5014, and **Table 1B** summarizes the state costs supported in sSB 25. There are additional costs to the SDE that are not contained in sHB 5014. A summary of the unfunded state costs appear in **Table 2**. Additionally, the bill makes various changes to local and regional

¹ The bill also includes one cost component to the Department of Public Health, which is included in Table 1, and one cost component to UCONN, which is included in Table 2.

school districts that result in costs and savings. A section by section breakout of the bill appears below.

Table 1A: Summary of Costs Included in sHB 5014 (\$ in millions)

Section	Item	Amount
1	ECS Increase	50.0
4	Competitive ECS Grants	2.3
5-7	State Charter Schools	8.1
11	Non-Sheff Magnet Schools	5.0
11	Edison Magnet School	2.2
12	Vocational Agriculture Centers	2.9
17	Commissioner's Network	7.0
18	Family Resource Centers	1.9
18	School Based Health Clinics	1.8
19, 58	Talent Development and Evaluation	4.0
26	College Preparation	0.5
27	Sheff/Innovation Schools	3.0
28	Technical Assistance/Regional Cooperation	0.3
33	School Readiness Slots	8.0
	Total	97.0

Table 1B: Summary of Costs Included in sSB 25 (\$ in millions)

Section	Item	Amount
9	Chart of Accounts	4.0
32	Early Childhood Data System	6.0
	Total	10.0

Table 2: Summary of Unfunded State Costs

Section	Item	Amount
5-7	Local Charters	\$300,000 for each 1,000 students and up to \$500,000 for start-up costs
13	Competitive Program for Vocational Agriculture	\$500,000-\$1.0 million
15	Attract the Best Program	\$500,000-\$1.0 million
27	Innovation Schools	Up to \$4.0 million
30	Connecticut Leadership Academy	\$750,000
59	Neag School at UCONN	\$200,000

Section 1 increases the FY 13 Education Cost Sharing (ECS) grant by \$50.0 million. Of the 169 towns, 33 will not receive an ECS increase for FY 13. sHB 5014, the revised FY 13 budget, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee, appropriated \$50.0 million for this purpose.

Sections 2 - 3 establishes the minimum budget requirement (MBR) for FY 13, which could result in a potential revenue loss to various municipalities and potential revenue gain to the state. In FY 12, it is anticipated that one town, Columbia, will not meet their MBR and will be penalized \$317,446. See **Appendix A** for a listing of approximate MBR's that towns will be required to meet in FY 13.

Additionally, the bill allows for an option to permit towns to reduce their MBR. In FY 12, approximately 105 districts were able to reduce their MBRs collectively by \$11.2 million (in aggregate). Adding an additional option for reduction (to reflect half of any new savings from regional collaboration or cooperative arrangements or increased efficiencies) could result in potential savings to various local and regional boards of education.

Section 3 establishes "alliance districts" and allows the education commissioner to conditionally hold back ECS grant increases for these towns and establishes conditions for releasing the funds. Of the \$50.0 million in new ECS funding, \$39.5 million is designated to the 30 alliance districts. The ability of the commissioner to retain the increased funds could result in a potential revenue loss to municipalities. Any funds that are not allotted to the districts will not lapse, but will be carried forward and remain available to the district for the following year.

Additionally, the bill requires alliance districts to maintain a minimum level of annual local funding for education. This could result in an additional cost to an alliance district, as they are now required to meet their MBR as well as the minimum local funding percentage. The minimum local funding percentages are 20% for FY 13, 22.5% for FY 14, 25% for FY 15, and 30% for FY 16. See **Appendix B** for a listing of

anticipated local funding percentages for FY 13. It is anticipated that only one of the designated alliance districts, Bridgeport, would be unable to meet their minimum local funding percentage, by approximately \$3.6 million. The bill allows the commissioner to remove a district from an alliance district designation if they are unable to meet their minimum local funding percentage. This could result in a revenue loss to a municipality, as they would no longer qualify for conditional ECS funding.

However, the bill allows an alliance district to reduce its FY 13 funding for education if it can demonstrate that its local contribution for education for FY 13 has increased compared to the local contribution used to determine its local funding percentage under the bill, thus resulting in a potential savings to a municipality.

Section 4 results in an additional cost of approximately \$2.25 million to the State Department of Education (SDE) associated with the creation of competitive grants for improving student performance. The grants range from \$50,000 to \$750,000 and are available to both alliance and non-alliance districts. sHB 5014, the revised FY 13 budget bill, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee, appropriated \$2.25 million for this purpose.

Charter School Funding

Sections 5 - 7 address issues related to charter school funding identified below.

State Charters:

The bill increases the state's annual per pupil grant to state charter schools, from \$9,400 to \$10,500. This results in an additional cost to SDE of approximately \$7.15 million. **Table 3**, below, provides detailed information on each state charter school, projected enrollment for the 2012-2012 school year, and the total per pupil grant increase per school.

Table 3: Charter School Enrollment and Increase per School

School	Projected Enrollment 2012-2013	Projected Increase (\$)
Achievement First (Bridgeport)	674	741,400
Achievement First (Hartford)	801	881,100
Amistad Academy	931	1,024,100
Bridge Academy	271	298,100
Common Ground High School	164	180,400
Elm City College Preparatory School	602	662,200
Explorations Charter School	85	93,500
Highville Charter School	333	366,300
Integrated Day Charter School	330	363,000
ISAAC	191	210,100
Jumoke Academy	582	640,200
New Beginnings Family Academy	400	440,000
Odyssey Community School	335	368,500
Park City Prep	250	275,000
Side by Side Community School	236	259,600
Stamford Academy	143	157,300
Trailblazers Academy	171	188,100
Total	6,499	7,148,900

sHB 5014, the revised FY 13 budget bill, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee, appropriated \$67.9 million for charter schools, an increase of \$8.1 million from the original FY 13 appropriation.² The budget bill specifies that the state charter school appropriation is considered to be part of the ECS grant and transfers \$59,839,400 (the original FY 13 appropriation) from the charter school account to the ECS account.

Additionally, the bill states that starting in FY 12, if a school district where a state charter is located, wishes to use student data to determine the district's performance, it must pay the charter school \$1,000 annually for each resident student who attends the school. This could result in an additional cost to municipalities that have state charter schools and choose to use the data. **Table 4**, below, summarizes the potential cost to municipalities if they choose to use the data.

² When the original biennial budget was passed, the charter school appropriation was reduced by \$800,000 to cover the costs of the Special Master in the Windham District, therefore, although the new costs for charter schools total slightly over \$7.1

Table 4: Potential Costs for Using Charter School Data

District	Charter Enrollment 2011-2012	LEA Charter Payment (\$)
Bridgeport	1,499	1,499,000
Hartford	1,063	1,063,000
New Haven	1,768	1,768,000
Winsted	-	-
Hamden	130	130,000
Norwich	275	275,000
New London	144	144,000
Norwalk	211	211,000
Stamford	260	260,000

Local Charters:

The bill establishes minimum per pupil support for local charter schools. The minimum is the net current expenditure per pupil of the preceding year. Under current law the per pupil support is specified within the school's charter. This potentially impacts the distribution of funds within the same district, but does not alter the total district expenditure. Currently, there are no local charter schools in operation.

The bill allows the State Board of Education (SBE), within available appropriations, to approve operating grants of up to \$3,000 per student for eligible local charters. Additionally, the bill allows SBE to award grants of up to \$500,000 for startup costs for an eligible local charter. However, based on sHB 5014, the revised FY 13 budget bill, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee, there is no funding within the charter school appropriation to support the addition of new local charters. If additional local charters are approved and SDE implemented the bill's provisions, they would incur additional costs. A new local charter with 100 students would result in an additional cost to SDE of \$300,000 per year.

Section 8 makes various changes to the state and local charter school approval process. The bill limits the approval of new schools

million, \$8.1 million is required to restore the original appropriation and to fund the enrollment total of 6,499.

only to those located in low-achieving districts or Commissioner's Network schools. This could result in a savings to municipalities and the state.

Additionally, **Section 8** requires that enrollment lotteries for state and local charter schools be conducted for the entire enrollment area of the school. This has no impact on the state, as the state charter school lotteries are handled by the individual schools. However, this could result in an additional cost to municipalities that opt to open new local charter schools as all students in the town or city would have to be entered into the lottery system. This could require additional staff, resources and outside auditing to ensure accuracy. The bill does allow municipalities to opt for a waiver to avoid the large scale lottery process.

Section 9 requires SDE to develop and implement a uniform system of accounting for school expenditures. sSB 25, the revised FY 13 bond package, as favorably reported by the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee, included \$4.0 million for this purpose.³ It is not anticipated that SDE will require any additional operating funds for this purpose.

Section 10 requires SDE to study issues related to districts with fewer than 1,000 students. This is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact as the agency currently has staff members with the expertise necessary to perform the study.

Magnet Schools:

Section 11 increases the per pupil grant amounts for various non-Sheff magnet schools. **Table 5** below provides a summary of the increases.

Table 5: Non-Sheff Magnet Grants

Type of Interdistrict Magnet	Current Law (\$)	Bill (\$)
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³ Cost estimates are based on a similar chart of accounts model based in Rhode Island.

Host	6,730	7,440
RESC Operated	7,620	8,180
RESC Operated (with 55% or more of its students from a dominant town)	Each student outside the dominant town= 6,730; each student from within the dominant town= 3,000	Each student outside the dominant town= 7,440; each student from within the dominant town= 3,000

sHB 5014, the revised FY 13 budget bill, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee, appropriated \$5.0 million for this purpose.

Section 11 also increases the per pupil grants for the Edison magnet school, located in Meriden. The bill increases the grant to \$8,180 for all students attending the school. sHB 5014, the revised FY 13 budget bill, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee, appropriated \$2.2 million for this purpose.

Vocational Agriculture Centers:

Section 12 prohibits local and regional boards of education operating vocational agriculture centers from using any increase in state funding to supplant local education funding. This precludes those municipalities from saving any potential funds that the state increase may have offset. sHB 5014, the revised FY 13 budget bill, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee, appropriated \$2.9 million to increase the per pupil base entitlement from \$1,355 to \$2,000.

Section 13 establishes a competitive grant program to increase overall enrollment, and enrollment by students from priority school districts, at vocational agriculture centers. The bill specifies that SDE implement this provision within available appropriations. However, if this section were to be implemented it would result in an additional cost to SDE ranging from \$500,000 to \$1.0 million. sHB 5014, the revised FY 13 budget bill, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee, did not include funding for this purpose.

Section 14 implements the transfer of Institutional Student Aid

(\$882,000) from the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services to SDE. sHB 5014, the revised FY 13 budget bill, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee, included this transfer.

Section 15 establishes a new “Attract the Best” teacher program. This would result in an additional cost ranging from \$500,000 to \$1.0 million to the Office of Financial and Academic Affairs for Higher Education. sHB 5014, the revised FY 13 budget bill, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee, did not include funding for this purpose.

Section 16 makes a number of changes to low performing schools, including:

- Proposed changes to the school accountability law and the creation of a school performance index (SPI), which does not result in a fiscal impact.
- A transition plan to switch from the current accountability plan to the new statewide management and support plan, which does not result in a fiscal impact.
- Imposing certain requirements on category three schools, which could result in an additional significant cost to local and regional boards of education that have category three schools.
- Imposing certain requirements on category four and five schools, which could result in an additional significant cost to local and regional boards of education that have category four and five schools.
- Proposed changes to reconstituted school boards, which does not result in a fiscal impact.

Currently, SDE uses approximately \$4.0 million of the federal Title I, school improvement, Part A funding for schools that are identified as in need of improvement. It is anticipated these funds will be used to

support the initiatives described above for category 3, 4 and 5 schools. Additionally, \$1.8 million of School Accountability funds will also be used for this purpose. Going forward, SDE will require that certain schools set aside up to 20% of their Title I funds to target areas of need.

Commissioner's Network:

Section 17 requires the education commissioner to establish a commissioner's network plan for ten low-performing schools. sHB 5014, the revised FY 13 budget bill, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee, appropriated \$7.0 million for this purpose. The bill requires the plan to include a number of different variables that could impact student achievement. The plan must be implemented for the school year commencing July 1, 2012.

Section 18 requires the commissioner to annually establish a family resource center or a school-based health clinic in a category four or five school, located in an alliance district, not to exceed 20 across all districts. Each additional family resource center is anticipated to cost an additional \$97,000 annually, and each school based health center is anticipated to cost an additional \$123,803 annually. sHB 5014, the revised FY 13 budget bill, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee, appropriated \$1.94 million in SDE for new family resource centers. The budget bill also includes \$1.8 million in the Department of Public Health for competitive grants for up to 20 new school based health centers to be located in the districts.

Section 19 requires SDE to develop a plan to encourage exemplary teachers and administrators to work in the state's lowest performing schools. sHB 5014, the revised FY 13 budget bill, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee, appropriated \$4.0 million for purposes of professional development, recruitment of quality teachers, and talent development for teachers and administrators.

Sections 20 - 25 make conforming and technical changes that are not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact.

New Grant Programs:

Section 26 establishes a grant program to help students with college applications. This is anticipated to result in a cost to SDE of approximately \$500,000. sHB 5014, the revised FY 13 budget bill, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee, appropriated \$500,000 for this purpose.

Section 27 establishes a pilot grant program for a local or regional board of education operating an innovation school to help the state meet the desegregation goals of the 2008 *Sheff v. O'Neill* court order. In addition to providing per-pupil and operating grants, the innovation schools may also qualify for bonus school construction money.

It is anticipated that there would be two eligible programs that would qualify for this funding in FY 13. Funding for the two new schools would come from the Sheff appropriation and the Open Choice appropriation. It is anticipated that additional funding of up to \$4.0 million would be required in the Sheff account to fully fund the development of the two new programs. The funds would be used for (1) adding a full-time middle school language arts program, estimated to cost approximately \$2.0 million and (2) adding an early childhood reading lab and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) elementary program, estimated to cost approximately \$5.0 million. sHB 5014, the revised FY 13 budget bill, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee, included \$3.0 million in new Sheff dollars. An additional \$4.0 million would be required to fully fund the innovation schools.

Section 28 establishes a program to provide grants to support school districts in developing plans to implement significant cost savings, while maintaining or improving educational quality. The grants must be used for technical assistance or regional cooperation. This is anticipated to result in a significant cost to SDE. sHB 5014, the revised FY 13 budget bill, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee, appropriated \$300,000 for this purpose.

Open Choice:

Section 29 increases the out-of-district student grant for the Open Choice program. Districts with more than 4,000 students that have increased their Open Choice enrollment by at least 50% on October 1, 2012, will qualify for a state grant of \$6,000 per out-of-district student. It is anticipated that only Hartford would qualify for any additional funding in FY 13 and the additional funding for the seats would be covered in the original FY 13 Open Choice appropriation of \$22.1 million.

Section 30 requires SDE to establish a Connecticut School Leadership Academy. This will result in a cost of approximately \$750,000 to SDE and a minimal cost to local and regional school districts associated with tuition fees that SDE may charge participants.

It is estimated that \$410,000 would be required to establish a leadership academy for aspiring principals and approximately \$310,000 for current principals. This funding includes stakeholder engagement and current state analysis, curriculum design, implementation, and evaluation and support.⁴ sHB 5014, the revised FY 13 budget bill, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee, did not include funding for this purpose.

Section 31 allows SDE to reward exemplary schools. It is anticipated that SDE will use existing funding in the School Accountability account to reward schools, and no additional funding is required.

Section 32 requires SDE, rather than the early childhood system, to develop a quality rating and improvement system. sSB 25, the revised FY 13 bond package, as favorably reported by the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee, included \$6.0 million for this purpose, \$3.0 million for a vendor to design and rollout a federated data system, \$2.0 million to redesign the data currently collected by various state

⁴ Cost estimates are based on the New York Leadership Academy.

agencies, and \$1.0 million for implementation, including training for parents.

Section 33 requires the education commissioner to create 1,000 new school readiness slots. Each school readiness slot costs the state \$8,346, for a total of \$8.3 million. Of the total 1,000 new slots, 600 must be located in the 10 educational reform districts and 400 must be located in the competitive school districts. sHB 5014, the revised FY 13 budget bill, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee, appropriated \$8.0 million for this purpose; \$7.0 million in the priority school district account, to fund approximately 875 slots and \$1.0 million in the Early Childhood Program account, to fund approximately 125 slots in the competitive districts⁵.

Section 34 extends, through FY 12, the Big Picture Magnet School's exemption from statutory student diversity requirements for interdistrict magnet schools. This exemption allows the school to continue to receive a state magnet school operating grant in FY 12. There are currently 105 students attending the school, which receives a state magnet grant of \$542,530. This cost is included in the original FY 13 appropriation of \$235.4 million, no additional funding is required.

Section 35 makes technical changes to the reporting requirements of local or regional boards of education to post information about school choice programs on its website. It is anticipated this will result in no fiscal impact to local and regional boards of education as they routinely perform these functions.

Technical High School System:

Section 36 - 54 makes various changes to the technical high school system, which does not result in a fiscal impact.

Teacher Certification, Promotion, Tenure, and Termination:

⁵ It is assumed not all 1,000 new slots would come on-line effective July 1, 2012, as the budget reflects reduced funding to account for a lag in the filling of the new slots.

Section 55 allows local and regional boards of education additional flexibility to appoint school superintendents who are not state certified; this does not result in a fiscal impact.

Section 56 expands the grounds for teacher termination to include ineffectiveness as well as for inefficiency or incompetence. The bill also makes changes to streamline the teacher termination process and timeline. This change is anticipated to result in an additional cost to municipalities as well as the technical high school system, since additional hearings could be held throughout the year. It is anticipated that the average cost of completing the dismissal process with a tenured teacher is approximately \$100,000.⁶

Section 57, which is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact, directs the education commissioner to consult with the Performance Evaluation Advisory Council (PEAC) to develop a plan for linking teacher and administrator evaluation with attaining and maintaining tenure.

Section 58 makes various changes to teacher evaluation requirements and the requirements for guidelines for a model teacher evaluation program. These changes include periodic training on the program for teachers being evaluated and administrators performing evaluations, professional development, and validation procedures for SDE or an SDE-approved third party to audit ratings of below standard or exemplary for any teacher or administrator. It is anticipated this will result in minimal costs to local and regional boards of education as professional development and periodic training are routinely performed activities. It is anticipated that this would result in a cost of up to \$2.5 million for SDE. The cost includes piloting the evaluation system on 13-14 districts as well as: in-person courses, online materials, coach support and a qualification assessment, practice materials, and suggested district activities.⁷ sHB 5014,

⁶ This figure is based on fiscal estimates collected from the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education.

⁷ Cost estimates are based on the Illinois model of a similar evaluation system.

the revised FY 13 budget bill, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee, appropriated \$4.0 million for talent development, to cover activities such as evaluation, but no specific funding was earmarked for the pilot program.

Section 59 requires UConn's Neag School of Education to study the implementation of teacher and administrator evaluation and support programs adopted by local and regional boards of education. It is anticipated it will cost UConn's Neag School \$200,000 to perform this study, including: salaries and fringes for two postdoctoral fellows, travel expenses and transcription of interviews.

Sections 60 - 62 and 65 - 77 make a number of changes to Connecticut's teacher and school administrator certification system, including:

- Extending the duration of an initial certificate from three to eight years and allows provisions for SBE to renew or extend an initial certification.
- Requiring the applicant for a professional certificate to hold a master's degree and makes changes regarding the 3-year teaching period prior to applying for a professional certificate.
- Eliminating the 90 continuing education units (CEUs) in a 5-year period required for certificate renewal. The bill instead requires all certified employees to "participate" in professional development programs.
- Easing the process for out-of-state teachers to obtain Connecticut teaching certificates.
- Changes to the current program design for continuing education credit.
- Eliminate various professional development requirements for specific certificate holders.

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to SDE for these changes. There is a minimal fiscal impact for local and regional boards of education to redesign their CEU programs. Current law requires school districts to make available for continuing education credit at least 18 hours of professional development for certified employees at no cost. The bill does not alter that requirement.

The bill reduces the fee for a professional certificate from \$375 to \$200. This will result in a revenue loss to SDE. During calendar year 2011 approximately 8,413 professional certificates were issued. Based on the 2011 data, in the aggregate, this will result in a loss of revenue of approximately \$1.5 million over a five-year period beginning in FY 13.

Section 63 establishes a new distinguished educator designation. The SBE must renew the designation every 5 years. The bill establishes a fee of \$200 for a distinguished educator designation and \$50 for a duplicate copy of the designation. The commissioner may waive this due to extenuating circumstances. It is anticipated that this will result in a revenue gain to SDE, beginning no sooner than FY 17. The amount is unknown although is expected to be less than \$200,000.

Section 64 authorizes local and regional boards of education to negotiate over new salary schedules that align compensation for teachers holding initial or professional teaching certificates and additional compensation for teachers holding the distinguished educator designation who are performing additional responsibilities associated with the designation. It is anticipated this will have no immediate fiscal impact on local and regional boards of education as negotiations may be conducted under standard bargaining conditions or the statutory provision regarding voluntary contract reopening.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation, number of grant recipients, expansion of pilot programs, available federal funding, and level of

appropriated funding.

Sources: State Department of Education; State of Rhode Island (chart of accounts model); New York Leadership Academy; Connecticut Association of Boards of Education ;State of Illinois (teacher evaluation);

Appendix A: Estimated Minimum Budget Requirements (\$)

	Simulated
District	2012-13
Name	MBR
Andover	7,793,050
Ansonia	26,377,214
Ashford	10,344,311
Avon	44,812,214
Barkhamsted	8,029,403
Berlin	38,250,256
Bethany	13,691,504
Bethel	38,061,973
Bloomfield	38,555,104
Bolton	12,530,832
Bozrah	5,226,728
Branford	49,807,590
Bridgeport	219,493,470
Bristol	102,725,955
Brookfield	36,251,426
Brooklyn	15,943,295
Canaan	3,076,774
Canterbury	10,862,461
Canton	22,803,440
Chaplin	5,377,995
Cheshire	61,456,453
Chester	8,367,045
Clinton	30,298,179
Colchester	37,182,326
Colebrook	3,736,331
Columbia	11,619,898
Cornwall	3,918,941
Coventry	25,061,195
Cromwell	25,560,145
Danbury	114,895,291
Darien	76,341,285
Deep River	9,624,156
Derby	15,449,185
Eastford	3,646,641
East Granby	13,710,650
East Haddam	18,482,163

East Hampton	26,204,711
East Hartford	82,498,910
East Haven	44,300,000
East Lyme	40,723,785
Easton	24,343,684
East Windsor	19,609,823
Ellington	32,160,023
Enfield	63,141,355
Essex	14,001,668
Fairfield	145,680,350
Farmington	54,198,826
Franklin	3,895,098
Glastonbury	89,745,106
Granby	27,201,273
Greenwich	136,312,034
Griswold	24,509,853
Groton	72,895,690
Guilford	51,238,393
Hamden	79,115,000
Hampton	3,947,632
Hartford	284,008,188
Hartland	4,718,846
Hebron	23,912,288
Kent	6,479,176
Killingly	36,470,959
Lebanon	17,658,161
Ledyard	29,867,040
Lisbon	9,482,689
Litchfield	16,659,275
Madison	48,041,757
Manchester	99,287,515
Mansfield	29,894,993
Marlborough	13,424,231
Meriden	99,608,340
Middletown	70,750,000
Milford	85,779,362
Monroe	51,712,769
Montville	36,798,974
Naugatuck	57,000,000
New Britain	118,060,557
New Canaan	73,122,500
New Fairfield	35,354,918

New Hartford	15,085,109
New Haven	173,019,297
Newington	61,912,086
New London	39,817,405
New Milford	57,497,421
Newtown	68,155,015
Norfolk	4,117,114
North Branford	29,672,537
North Canaan	7,807,046
North Haven	44,589,125
North Stonington	12,117,620
Norwalk	154,801,489
Norwich	68,163,405
Old Saybrook	21,874,724
Orange	35,038,049
Oxford	26,129,251
Plainfield	32,365,066
Plainville	33,037,531
Plymouth	23,244,656
Pomfret	9,286,844
Portland	18,262,320
Preston	10,553,546
Putnam	16,195,356
Redding	31,326,759
Ridgefield	79,421,694
Rocky Hill	29,458,851
Salem	10,091,863
Salisbury	7,765,343
Scotland	4,407,156
Seymour	30,111,363
Sharon	6,461,907
Shelton	64,004,137
Sherman	8,658,275
Simsbury	63,199,717
Somers	19,412,102
Southington	80,133,519
South Windsor	64,478,645
Sprague	6,025,531
Stafford	25,074,021
Stamford	229,275,948
Sterling	7,698,415
Stonington	32,079,140

Stratford	93,978,779
Suffield	30,888,433
Thomaston	14,195,131
Thompson	16,186,430
Tolland	34,084,358
Torrington	64,971,256
Trumbull	87,794,452
Union	1,617,924
Vernon	47,462,358
Voluntown	6,242,213
Wallingford	88,319,706
Waterbury	155,625,000
Waterford	43,169,424
Watertown	36,130,933
Westbrook	14,489,635
West Hartford	133,747,006
West Haven	80,924,049
Weston	45,392,537
Westport	98,238,218
Wethersfield	50,174,865
Willington	11,817,409
Wilton	72,777,608
Winchester	19,958,149
Windham	42,757,854
Windsor	61,829,029
Windsor Locks	27,359,841
Wolcott	31,774,872
Woodbridge	23,599,587
Woodstock	15,912,185
District No. 6	16,433,224
District No. 10	32,889,709
District No. 12	20,623,522
District No. 13	35,025,377
District No. 14	30,417,553
District No. 15	60,679,553
District No. 16	37,074,903
District No. 17	38,259,322
District No. 18	27,533,495
Total	\$6,965,362,928

Appendix B: Minimum Local Funding Percentages for FY 13

Alliance District	Local Funding Percentage
Ansonia	32.87%
Bloomfield	76.24%
Bridgeport	18.74%
Bristol	53.35%
Danbury	69.69%
Derby	56.84%
East Hartford	38.37%
East Haven	48.98%
East Windsor	65.44%
Hamden	71.68%
Hartford	25.51%
Killingly	47.74%
Manchester	61.16%
Meriden	41.18%
Middletown	66.73%
Naugatuck	46.93%
New Britain	27.79%
New Haven	31.46%
New London	34.79%
Norwalk	84.22%
Norwich	41.97%
Putnam	42.69%
Stamford	84.63%
Vernon	58.10%
Waterbury	35.73%
West Haven	45.43%
Winchester	52.92%
Windham	29.16%
Windsor	74.78%
Windsor Locks	78.20%

OLR Bill Analysis**sSB 24*****AN ACT CONCERNING EDUCATIONAL COMPETITIVENESS.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill, among other things, (1) increases state education funding for towns, school districts, and charter and certain interdistrict magnet schools; (2) changes how the state identifies and intervenes to improve student achievement in low-performing school districts and schools; and (3) revamps required evaluation, termination processes, certification, and professional development for teachers and school administrators.

The bill's major funding provisions:

1. increase Education Cost Sharing (ECS) grants and establish new minimum budget requirements (MBRs) for most towns for FY 13 (§§ 1 & 2);
2. increase state funding for state and local charter schools, as well as for interdistrict magnet schools located outside the Hartford region (§§ 5-7 & 11); and
3. establish new state grants and programs to, among other things, support school district improvement (§ 4), help students apply to college (§ 26); fund innovation schools to help meet desegregation goals (§ 27), help school districts achieve efficiencies to save money (§ 28), and create a School Leadership Academy program to train school administrators (§ 30).

With respect to schools and school districts with low student achievement, the bill's major provisions:

1. require (a) the education commissioner to identify, and

withhold ECS grant increases from, up to 30 of the lowest performing school districts and (b) those districts to submit improvement plans and meet other conditions to have the funds released (§ 3);

2. (a) require the State Board of Education (SBE), in approving new charter schools, to focus on schools that plan to serve educationally needy populations or turn around existing schools with persistent low academic performance and (b) expand enrollment lotteries to give more students the chance to enroll in new charter schools (§ 8);
3. revamp the education accountability law regarding schools in need of improvement and create new school categories based on student academic performance (§ 16);
4. designate category four and five schools as low-achieving schools subject to intensified SBE intervention and expand the range of options the SBE must take regarding low-achieving schools and districts (§ 16);
5. establish a commissioner's network for 10 of the state's lowest performing schools and require the commissioner to develop and implement a plan to improve student achievement in each of them (§ 17);
6. require the state to establish up to 20 family resource centers or school-based health centers in category four and five schools (§ 18); and
7. require the state to provide funding for 1,000 new spaces in school readiness programs, with 600 spaces allocated to the 10 lowest-performing school districts (§ 33).

The bill's major provisions concerning teachers and school administrators:

1. expand the grounds and shorten the process for teacher

termination (§ 56);

2. expand requirements for the state's model teacher evaluation guidelines to be issued by July 1, 2012 and requires the education commissioner to develop a plan for linking evaluations and teacher tenure (§§ 57 & 58);
3. revamp the state's teacher certification system to, among other things, (a) eliminate the middle-level provisional certificate, (b) require a relevant master's degree to obtain a professional certificate, and (c) revise teacher professional development requirements to emphasize improved practice and individual and small-group coaching sessions (§§ 60-62 & 65-77); and
4. establish a state distinguished educator designation for teachers with advanced degrees and training who meet performance standards established by the State Department of Education (SDE) (§ 63).

Finally, the bill establishes a separate board to oversee the vocational-technical school system (§§ 36-54).

A section-by-section analysis appears below.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2012, unless otherwise noted.

§ 1—EDUCATION COST SHARING (ECS) GRANT INCREASES FOR FY 13

The bill increases FY 13 ECS grants to 136 towns by various amounts listed in the bill. Under current law, each town's ECS grant for FY 13 is the same as its FY 12 ECS grant. The grant increases for FY 13 total \$50 million in the aggregate. The bill makes no changes in the ECS formula, although it imposes conditions for some districts to receive their grant increases (see § 3).

§ 2—MINIMUM BUDGET REQUIREMENT FOR FY 13

By law, as a condition of receiving ECS grants, towns must budget minimum annual amounts for education. This requirement is known

as the minimum budget requirement (MBR).

This bill:

1. adds any ECS grant increase a town receives in FY 13 under the bill to its base MBR for FY 13;
2. limits allowable MBR reductions to no more than 0.5% of each town's FY 13, rather than its FY 12, education budget;
3. allows a town to reduce its FY 13 MBR within certain limits to reflect savings from regional collaboration or increased efficiencies in its school district; and
4. establishes a separate MBR for the "alliance districts" it creates (see next section).

Base MBR for FY 13

The bill increases town MBRs for FY 13 to require them to budget at least (1) the amount they budgeted for education in FY 12 plus (2) any ECS grant increase they receive for FY 13. It requires any allowable MBR reductions to be subtracted from this higher MBR base.

MBR Reduction Limits

Current law allows a qualifying town to reduce its MBR for FY 13 if (1) its school district enrollment fell in 2012 compared to 2011, by up to \$3,000 times the drop in enrollment or (2) it has no high school and is paying tuition for fewer students to attend high school in another district in 2012 than in 2011, by the per-student tuition rate times the drop in enrollment.

Under current law, in FY 13, these reductions are limited to no more than 0.5% of the town's FY 12 budgeted appropriation for education. The bill instead limits them to that percentage of its FY 13 budgeted appropriation for education.

Savings from Efficiencies or Interdistrict Collaboration

In addition to the MBR reductions already allowed, the bill allows a

town to reduce its MBR for FY 13 to reflect half of any new savings from (1) a regional collaboration or cooperative arrangement with one or more other districts or (2) increased efficiencies within its school district, as long as the savings can be documented. The education commissioner must approve the intradistrict efficiencies. The overall reduction is limited to 0.5% of the district's FY 13 budgeted appropriation for education.

§ 3—ALLIANCE DISTRICTS

The bill requires the education commissioner to hold back ECS grant increases for towns with the lowest-performing school districts and establishes conditions for releasing the funds. The school districts subject to the conditional funding are called "alliance districts."

Designating the Districts

An alliance district is a town whose district is among those with the lowest academic performance as measured by a district performance index (DPI) the bill establishes. (The bill does not specify who designates the initial alliance districts or exactly how many such districts may be designated.) For FY 13, the bill limits the number of alliance districts to 30. Districts keep the designation for five years but the bill allows the education commissioner to remove a district's alliance designation after determining it has violated its approved improvement plan (see below).

The commissioner must determine, by June 30, 2016, whether to designate additional alliance districts.

The bill also establishes a category called "educational reform districts," which are the 10 districts with the lowest DPIs. This group appears to be a subset of the alliance districts. Although a separate category, the conditional funding requirements apply to these districts in the same way as to the do to the other 20. Section 33 of the bill directs the education commissioner to provide funding for 600 new spaces in school readiness programs located in these districts.

District Performance Index

A town's DPI is its students' weighted performance on the statewide mastery tests in reading, writing, and mathematics given in grades three through eight and 10, and science in grades five, eight, and 10. The index is calculated by:

1. weighting student scores in each of these subjects as follows: zero for below basic (the lowest score), 25% for basic, 50% for proficient, 75% for goal, and 100% for advanced;
2. adding up the weighted student scores for each subject;
3. multiplying the aggregate student results in each subject by 30% for math, reading, and writing and 10% for science; and
4. adding up the weighted subject scores.

The weightings produce the lowest indexes for districts with the lowest test scores.

Under the bill, the test score data used for the index is either (1) the data of record on the December 31st following the tests, or (2) that data as adjusted by SDE according to a board of education's request for an adjustment filed by the November 30th following the test.

Conditional Funding

The bill requires the state comptroller to hold back any ECS grant increase over the prior year's grant that is payable to an alliance district town in FY 13 or any subsequent fiscal year. The comptroller must transfer the money to the education commissioner. An alliance district may apply to receive its ECS grant increase when and how the education commissioner prescribes. The bill allows the commissioner to pay the funds to the district on condition that they are spent according to its approved district improvement plan (see below) and guidelines the bill allows SBE to adopt.

The bill requires any balance of the conditional ECS funds allocated to each alliance district that remains unspent at the end of any fiscal year to be carried over and remain available to the district for the

following fiscal year. (Presumably, any unallocated funds must lapse.)

District Improvement Plan

Alliance districts must use their conditional ECS funding to improve local achievement and offset other local education costs the commissioner approves. To be eligible to receive the funds, a district must submit an application to the commissioner. The application must contain objectives and performance targets as well as an improvement plan that may include:

1. a tiered intervention system for the district's schools based on their needs;
2. ways to strengthen reading programs to ensure reading mastery in grades K-3 and that focus on (a) standards and instruction, (b) proper data use, (c) intervention strategies, (d) current information for teachers, (e) parental engagement, and (f) teacher professional development;
3. additional learning time, including extended school day or year programs run by school personnel or external partners;
4. a talent strategy that includes teacher and school leader recruitment and assignment, career ladder policies that (a) draw on SBE-adopted model evaluation guidelines and evaluation programs adopted by school districts and (b) may include provisions demonstrating increased ability to attract, retain, promote, and bolster staff performance according to performance evaluation findings and, for new personnel, other indicators of effectiveness;
5. training for school leaders and other staff on new teacher evaluation models;
6. provisions for cooperating and coordinating with early childhood education providers to ensure alignment between those programs and district expectations for students entering

kindergarten;

7. provisions for cooperating and coordinating with other government and community programs to ensure students receive adequate support and “wraparound services,” including community school models (schools that provide social services for eligible families in addition to regular instruction for students); and
8. any additional categories or goals the commissioner determines.

The plan must also demonstrate collaboration with “key stakeholders” the commissioner identifies to achieve efficiencies and align the intent and practice of current programs with those of the conditional programs identified in the bill.

Minimum Local Funding Requirements for Alliance Districts

The bill requires alliance districts to maintain a minimum level of annual local funding for education and establishes a separate MBR for such districts for FY 13. Under the bill, each alliance district’s budgeted appropriation for education for FY 13 must at least (1) equal its budgeted appropriation for education for FY 12 and (2) meet the bill’s required minimum local education funding percentage for the year. Under the bill, the minimum local funding percentages are 20% for FY 13, 22.5% for FY 14, 25% for FY 15, and 30% for FY 16 and subsequent fiscal years.

The education commissioner can allow an alliance district town to reduce its FY 13 appropriation for education if it can demonstrate that its local contribution for education for FY 13 has increased compared to the local contribution used to determine its local funding percentage under the bill.

Under the bill, the local funding percentage is determined by dividing, for the fiscal year two years prior to the ECS grant year, the district’s:

1. total current education spending excluding (a) capital construction and debt service, private school health services, and adult education, (b) other state education grants, federal grants other than those for adult education and impact aid, and income from school meals and student activities, (c) income from private and other sources, and (d) tuition,
2. by its total current education spending excluding only capital construction and debt service, private school health services, and adult education.

State Oversight

Although an alliance district designation lasts five years, the bill allows the education commissioner to remove the designation before the following July 1 if a district fails to comply with its approved plan. (However, it appears that, under the bill, if the commissioner removes the alliance district designation, he can no longer hold back the town's ECS grant increase.)

The bill also allows the commissioner to (1) withhold conditional funding if an alliance district fails to comply with the bill's requirements and (2) renew the funding if a district's school board provides evidence that the district is meeting the objectives and performance targets of its plan.

Districts receiving conditional funding must submit annual expenditure reports in a form and manner the commissioner prescribes. The commissioner must determine whether to (1) require a district to repay amounts not spent in accordance with its approved application or (2) reduce the district's grant by that amount in a subsequent year.

§ 4—COMPETITIVE GRANTS FOR IMPROVING STUDENT PERFORMANCE

The bill establishes annual competitive grants, within available appropriations, for school districts seeking to improve student performance using a system of tiered interventions for its schools

based on their needs. Grants must range from \$50,000 to \$750,000. Districts may also accept matching funds from nonprofit, tax-exempt organizations for grant-funded programs as long as the matching funds do not limit their scope. Districts must spend the grants for educational purposes and cannot use grant funds to supplant local education funding.

The competitive grant program is open to all districts. The education commissioner must prescribe the time and manner of the grant applications, but the bill allows an alliance district to submit its conditional funding plan instead of a separate application.

The bill allows SDE to develop necessary guidelines and grant criteria to administer the program. As with conditional grants, districts receiving competitive grants must submit an expenditure report to SDE in a form and manner the department prescribes. SDE must determine whether a district must (1) refund unspent money when the program for which it was awarded ends or (2) repay any amounts not spent in accordance with its application.

§§ 5-7—STATE AND LOCAL CHARTER SCHOOL FUNDING

State Charter Schools

State Per-Student Grant. Starting in FY 13, the bill increases the state's annual grant to state charter schools from \$9,400 to \$10,500 per student.

District Payment for Use of Charter School Data. Starting with FY 12, the bill allows a school district where a state charter school is located to ask SDE to authorize it to use student performance data from the state charter school exclusively to determine the district's performance under the state's performance management and support plan for districts in need of improvement.

Under the bill, a district may use the data only if it agrees to pay the charter school \$1,000 annually for each of its resident students who attends the school. If the district fails to pay the agreed-upon amount, the bill allows the education commissioner to withhold it from the

town's ECS grant and pay it to the charter school's fiscal agent as a supplemental grant.

The bill requires SDE to prescribe how districts must submit requests to use charter school performance data. Any district that uses such data must do so for a two-year period and give SDE at least six months' prior notice of its intention to renew or end that use. SBE must issue guidelines concerning the elements required for such a request and the standards for reviewing it.

State charter schools currently report student performance data and it is not generally incorporated into district data. But, a six-year pilot program scheduled to run through FY 13 allows Bridgeport, Hartford, and New Haven to combine student achievement data from their regular schools with data from charter schools located in those cities for accountability purposes. Under the pilot, the board of education and a charter school mutually agree to combine the data and the education commissioner must approve the agreement.

Local Charter Schools

State Grants. Starting in FY 13, the bill allows SBE, within available appropriations, to approve (1) operating grants of up to \$3,000 per student and (2) grants of up to \$500,000 for startup costs for local charter schools to be established on or after July 1, 2012.

To be eligible for an operating or startup grant, SBE must determine that the applicant has:

1. high-quality, feasible strategies for, or a record of success in, serving educationally needy students, i.e., those who (a) have a history of low academic performance or behavioral or social difficulties, (b) receive free or reduced-price school lunches, (c) are eligible for special education, or (d) are English language learners; or
2. a high-quality, feasible plan for, or a record of success in, turning around existing schools with consistently substandard student

performance.

The eligible charter school must (1) apply to SBE for the grant as the board prescribes and (2) if it receives a grant, file reports and financial statements the education commissioner requires. SDE may (1) redistribute unspent funds appropriated for startup grants for the same purposes in the next fiscal year and (2) develop needed criteria and guidelines to administer the grants.

As with operating grants for state charter schools, SBE must determine the number of students enrolled in the local charter school and make operating grant payments of 25% of the grant amount by July 15th and September 15th based on estimated student enrollment on May 1st. It must pay an additional 25% by January 15th and the remainder by April 15th based on the school's actual enrollment as of October 1st.

District Contribution. Under current law, the school board of a local charter school student's home district must pay the school's fiscal authority the per-student amount specified in the school's charter. The payment must include reasonable special education costs for a student requiring special education. The bill additionally requires the board's support to at least equal its per-pupil cost for the prior fiscal year, minus any per-pupil special education costs paid by a student's home district, multiplied by the number of students attending the school in the current fiscal year.

The bill defines the district's per-pupil cost as its net current expenditures for education divided by the number of public school students enrolled at the board's expense as of October 1st or the immediately preceding full school day, plus the number of students who attended full-time summer school sessions at district expense in the preceding summer.

The district's "net current expenditures" are its total education spending excluding (1) student transportation, (2) capital costs supported by school construction grants and debt service, (3) adult

education, (4) health services for private school students, (5) tuition, (6) income from federal- and state-aided school meal programs, and (7) fees for student activities.

Charter School Grants and ECS

The bill specifies that state grants to state and local charter schools are considered to be ECS grants (see COMMENT).

§ 8—APPROVAL OF NEW CHARTER SCHOOLS

This bill changes the approval process for state and local charter schools, including by limiting the approval of new schools only to those located in low-achieving districts or districts with schools that are part of the commissioner's network.

It also establishes additional preferences for granting charters, adds new grounds for SBE to consider regarding charter renewals, imposes a new lottery process for charter school admissions, and grants waivers from the required lottery process for certain types of charter schools. It ties all these changes to whether a charter is specifically designed to enroll, retain, and serve students with one or more characteristics that identify them as educationally needy.

Application Process

By law, SBE must review and approve all applications for local and state charter schools. The local school district where the school will be located must also approve the charter for a local charter school.

Starting July 1, 2012, the bill allows SBE to grant new state and local charters only to schools located in towns (1) with at least one school in the commissioner's network of schools (see § 17) or (2) whose school district is designated as low-achieving. Current law does not limit charter school locations.

The bill adds to the types of schools to which SBE must give preference when reviewing charter school applications. The law already requires the board to give a preference to charter applications containing certain elements, such as schools located in priority districts

or in districts where student populations are at least 75% minority. The bill requires SBE to also give preference to applications whose primary purpose is to:

1. serve students (a) with a history of low academic performance or behavioral and social difficulties, (b) receiving free or reduced priced lunches, (c) requiring special education, (d) who are English language learners, or (e) who are of a single gender; or
2. improve the academic performance of an existing school that has consistently demonstrated substandard academic performance, as determined by the education commissioner.

In addition to providing the preference for serving one or more of the educationally needy populations mentioned above, SBE must give preference to applications that demonstrate highly credible and specific strategies to attract, enroll, and retain such students. Charter applications must include student recruitment and retention plans that clearly describe the school's capacity to recruit and retain such students and how they plan to do it.

Charter Renewals

In addition to the existing reasons for which SBE may deny a charter renewal application, the bill allows the board to deny a charter renewal to a school that made insufficient efforts to effectively attract, enroll, and retain all of the previously mentioned educationally needy students, except students of a single gender.

Enrollment Lottery and Waiver

The bill requires student enrollment lotteries for state or local charter schools to include (1) all students who live in the district where the school is located and are enrolled in any grade the school serves, unless a student chooses not to participate and (2) any student from outside the district who applies to enroll in the school. Under current law, charter schools must hold lotteries when more students seek to enroll in a school than there are available spots. The bill requires the local board of education or charter school's governing body to notify

students of their eligibility for the lottery at least 45 days before it is held. These lottery provisions apply to new charter school applications submitted on or after July 1, 2012 and not to existing schools.

The bill also allows the education commissioner to waive the lottery requirement for schools with a specialized focus he approves, or whose primary purpose is serving at least one of the following:

1. students with a history of low academic performance;
2. free or reduced priced lunch recipients, pursuant to federal law and regulations;
3. students with a history of behavioral and social difficulties;
4. special education students;
5. English language learners; or
6. students of a single gender.

The bill bars enrollment lotteries for any existing low-achieving school that is converted to a charter school.

§ 9—UNIFORM SYSTEM OF ACCOUNTING AND CHART OF ACCOUNTS

The bill requires SDE to develop and implement a uniform system of accounting for school expenditures that includes a chart of accounts for use at the school and school district level. It also requires SDE to impose “select measures,” which the bill allows SDE to define, on individual schools.

Starting with FY 14, the bill requires each board of education, regional education service center (RESC), and state charter school to implement the system by filing a chart of accounts that meets the requirements of an existing statute requiring boards of education to (1) annually submit receipts, expenditures, and statistics to the education commissioner and (2) have the information certified by an

independent public accountant selected to audit municipal accounts. The existing law imposes penalties of between \$1,000 and \$10,000 for failing to submit the information on time (CGS § 10-227).

The bill permits the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) to annually audit the chart of accounts for any board of education, RESC, or state charter school.

It is not clear how this section will work with an existing statute that requires the education commissioner to develop a financial information system for boards of education to provide the state with budget and year-end expenditure data (CGS § 10-222(b)). This existing statute, like the bill's provision above, requires the information to be submitted in conformance with CGS § 10-227.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§ 10—STUDY OF SMALL DISTRICT ISSUES

The bill requires SDE to study issues related to districts with fewer than 1,000 students ("small districts"). The department must consider:

1. financial disincentives, such as a small district reduction percentage (see below), for small districts whose per-pupil costs exceed the state average for the prior year;
2. financial incentives for such districts to consolidate;
3. the \$100-per-student ECS grant regional bonus as well as the effect of other state reimbursement bonuses for regional districts and cooperative arrangements; and
4. the ECS minimum budget requirement.

The bill defines per-student cost as a district's net current expenditures divided by its average student membership (student count) as of October 1. Likewise, the state per-student average cost is the sum of the net current expenditures of all local and regional school districts divided by the sum of their average student memberships as

of October 1.

It defines a “small district reduction percentage” as a reduction in state education funding starting at 10% for the first year a district is 10% or more above the state per-student average cost. This reduction increases by an additional 10 percentage points each year for up to a total of five years for a maximum reduction of 50% if the district continues to spend at least 10% more than the state per-pupil average cost.

SDE must report the findings and recommendations of its study to the Education Committee by January 1, 2013.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§ 11—GRANT INCREASES FOR NON-SHEFF MAGNET SCHOOLS

Starting in FY 13, the bill increases annual state per-pupil operating grants for non-*Sheff* interdistrict magnet schools as shown in Table 1. Non-*Sheff* magnets are schools that do not explicitly help the state meet the goals of the 2008 settlement in the *Sheff v. O’Neill* school desegregation case relating to Hartford and its surrounding towns.

Table 1: Increases for Non-*Sheff* Magnet Grants

Type of Interdistrict Magnet School	Per-Student Grant	
	Current Law	Bill
Operated by local school district (“host magnet”)	\$6,730	\$7,440
Operated by RESC (“RESC magnet”) with less than 55% of its students from a single town	\$7,620	\$8,180
RESC magnet with 55% or more of its students from a single town (“dominant town”) – with one exception (see below)	For each student from outside the dominant town: \$6,730 For each student from the dominant town: \$3,000	For each student from outside the dominant town: \$7,440 For each student from the dominant town: \$3,000

<i>Type of Interdistrict Magnet School</i>	<i>Per-Student Grant</i>	
	<i>Current Law</i>	<i>Bill</i>
RESC magnet with between 55% and 80% of students from a dominant town	For each student from outside the dominant town: \$6,730 For each student from the dominant town: \$3,833	For each student regardless of originating town: \$8,180

The bill also eliminates obsolete language.

§ 12—NONSUPPLANT REQUIREMENT FOR STATE VO-AG FUNDING INCREASES

The bill prohibits local and regional boards of education that operate regional agricultural science and technology (“vo-ag”) centers from using any increase in annual state funding for such centers to supplant local education funding for FY 13 or any subsequent fiscal year.

§ 13—COMPETITIVE GRANTS TO INCREASE VO-AG CENTER ENROLLMENT

The bill requires SDE, within available appropriations, to provide competitive grants to vo-ag centers for developing plans to increase both their overall enrollment and enrollment by priority school district students.

§ 14—SPECIAL EDUCATION PAYMENTS FOR CHILDREN IN DMHAS FACILITIES

By law, the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) must provide regular and special education services to eligible residents in its facilities. The bill transfers the responsibility for paying for these costs from SBE to DMHAS. It also makes a conforming change to eliminate a requirement that SBE pay for the costs in two installments.

§ 15—TEACHER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The bill establishes a “Connecticut Attract the Best Teacher Scholarship Program” administered by the Office of Financial and Academic Affairs for Higher Education (FAAHE), in consultation with SDE. Eligible students who are hired by priority school districts or

schools in the commissioner's network (see below) may receive a combination of grants and loan reimbursements of up to \$15,000.

Grants

The program, within available appropriations, must provide grants of up to \$5,000 per student. To be eligible, a student must demonstrate exemplary academic achievement which may be measured by (1) grade point average; (2) scores on state-required reading, writing, and mathematics competency examinations (Praxis exams); and (3) an employment commitment from a priority school district or a school in the commissioner's network.

A student eligible for a grant under the program must be enrolled in:

1. a teacher education program during his or her senior year at a four-year public or private college or university and complete the requirements of the program as a graduate student for one year or
2. an alternate route to certification program administered through FAAHE.

No student may receive more than one grant under the program.

Loan Reimbursement

Under the bill, a student who is awarded a grant and is hired by a priority school district or commissioner's network school is eligible for a federal or state education loan reimbursement of up to \$2,500 a year for up to four years, as long as the student remains employed at the district or school.

Program Administration

The bill permits FAAHE to use up to 2% of the funds appropriated for the program for administrative costs.

§ 16—SCHOOL PERFORMANCE INDICES, ACTIONS REGARDING LOW-ACHIEVING SCHOOLS, AND RECONSTITUTION OF LOCAL BOARDS OF EDUCATION

The bill (1) revamps the education accountability law regarding identifying school districts in need of improvement and (2) creates new categories of schools based on student performance on statewide mastery tests in order to take action to improve academic achievement. In order to separate the schools into five categories, the bill creates a school performance index (SPI) ranking system.

The bill also modifies the law regarding reconstitution of boards of education in low-performing school districts, including establishing a method of notifying local officials of the start and conclusion of reconstitutions.

School Districts in Need of Improvement, Low-Performing Schools, and Focus Schools

Under the current education accountability law, the education commissioner identifies school districts and individual schools “in need of improvement” in the statewide education accountability plan. The designation “in need of improvement” is based on federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act provisions that require school districts and schools to make adequate yearly progress toward proficient student performance on required tests.

Under the bill, the accountability plan is instead called the performance management and support plan, which must be consistent with federal law and regulation. As part of the plan, the bill requires SDE to:

1. continue to identify districts in need of improvement;
2. classify schools in five performance categories with category one representing the highest and category five the lowest based on SPI; and
3. designate as focus schools those with identifiable low-performing student subgroups using measures of student

academic achievement and growth for subgroups in the aggregate or over time, but not after June 30, 2014. (Subgroups are defined in NCLB as groups who have historically underperformed academically when compared to all students. They may include racial groups, English language learners, those eligible for free or reduced lunch, or students with disabilities.)

School Performance Index

The bill creates a measurement called a school performance index (SPI) to gauge how schools perform on statewide mastery tests in math, reading, writing, and science. It prescribes (1) how SPIs are calculated for each school and (2) subject-specific SPIs.

The school SPI is used to place each school in one of five categories. The bill applies different state responses and interventions to schools depending upon their category.

Calculating the SPI. A school's SPI is its students' weighted performance on the statewide mastery tests in reading, writing, and mathematics given in grades three through eight and 10, and science in grades five, eight, and 10. By law, public school students are required to take the tests in these grades.

The index is calculated by:

1. weighting student scores in each subject as follows: zero for below basic (the lowest score), 25% for basic, 50% for proficient, 75% for goal, and 100% for advanced;
2. adding up the weighted student scores for each subject;
3. multiplying the student results in each subject by 30% for math, reading, and writing and 10% for science; and
4. adding up the weighted subject scores.

The result is an index score ranging from zero to 100%, where a zero

indicates that all students scored at or below basic level and 100% indicates that all students scored at the advanced level.

Under the bill, the test score data used for the index is either (1) the data of record on the December 31st following the tests or (2) that data as adjusted by the SDE according to a board of education's request for an adjustment filed with SDE by the November 30th following the tests.

Categories One Through Five. Once schools have SPI scores, they are divided into categories, with one being the highest performers and five the lowest, as shown in the table below.

Table 2: School Performance Categories

Category	School Description (when schools ranked highest SPI to lowest)
1	Percentage score equal to or greater than 80%
2	Percentage score equal to or greater than 60% but less than 80%
3	Percentage score equal to or greater than 40% but less than 60%
4	Percentage score equal to or greater than 20% but less than 40%
5	Percentage score less than 20%

Category Three Schools. The bill allows SDE to impose certain requirements on category three schools. The department may (1) require the schools to develop and implement plans consistent with the bill and federal law to elevate them from a low-achieving status and (2) impose on them any of the actions contained in the statewide performance management and support plan.

SDE may also require the local or regional board of education for a category three school to collaborate with the appropriate RESC to develop plans to ensure the school provides:

1. early education opportunities,
2. summer school,

3. extended school day or year programming,
4. weekend classes,
5. tutors, or
6. professional development to its administrators, principals, teachers, and paraprofessional aides.

The commissioner can limit such programs to (1) the student subgroup that has failed to reach performance benchmarks or (2) those in transitional or milestone grades or those who are otherwise at substantial risk of educational failure.

Transition to New Plan

The bill creates a transition period for the SBE to switch the identified schools and districts from the accountability plan under current law, which the bill would continue until June 30, 2012, and the new statewide management and support plan prepared under the bill.

The schools and districts currently identified as in need of improvement under the accountability plan:

1. continue under that plan through June 30, 2012;
2. are monitored by SDE, beginning in July 2012, to determine if student achievement for the schools and districts is at an acceptable level, as defined in the bill's new statewide performance management and support plan;
3. are evaluated by the local or regional board of education by July 1, 2012 to determine whether they are making adequate yearly progress;
4. are subject to the state-wide performance management and support plan if they fail to make adequate yearly progress;
5. are subject to rewards and consequences as defined in the management and support plan; and

6. continue to be eligible for available federal or state aid.

Low-Achieving Schools and Districts

By law, districts in need of improvement are one group and low-achieving school districts are a subset of that group. By law and unchanged by the bill, a school or district in need of improvement that requires corrective action under the federal NCLB law is designated a low-achieving school or district that is subject to intensified SBE supervision and direction.

The bill also designates category four and five schools and focus schools as low-achieving schools and requires the SBE to intensively supervise and direct them. Consequently, it extends an existing statutory list of required SBE actions for low-achieving schools or districts to category four and five schools and focus schools. By law, for low-achieving schools and districts, and under the bill for category four and five schools and focus schools, the SBE must take any of the actions from the list to improve student performance of a school or district or of a student subgroup to remove the school or district from the low-achieving list.

SBE may:

1. require operational and instructional audits;
2. direct the district to implement an achievement plan that addresses the deficits found in the instructional audit;
3. require the local board to use state and federal funds for critical needs as directed by SBE;
4. provide incentives to attract high quality teachers and principals;
5. direct the transfer and assignment of teachers and principals;
6. require the local board to implement a model curriculum;
7. indentify schools to be reconstituted as charters, innovation

schools, or other models for school improvement;

8. establish learning academies within the schools that require continuous monitoring of student achievement, and crafting of achievement plans; and
9. provide funding for students in the low-achieving district to attend school in a neighboring district with higher achievement levels.

By law many of the possible SBE actions (including numbers 2, 4, 5, 7 and 8 from the list above) must be carried out according to the Teacher Negotiation Act (CGS §§ 10-153a to 153n).

The bill gives SBE the additional options to:

1. require the appointment of a superintendent, approved by the education commissioner or
2. require the appointment of a special master, selected by the commissioner, with the same authority as the Windham special master (PA 11-61, § 138) and whose term must be for one fiscal year, unless SBE extends it.

The authority under the Windham special master law includes:

1. a requirement that SBE require the school board to ask the union representing a school district bargaining unit to reopen an existing contract for the sole purpose of revising employment conditions to implement the district's improvement plan and
2. an expedited arbitration process if the parties fail to agree to one or more issues related to implementing the improvement plan.

Comptroller's Authority to Withhold ECS Grant Funds Repealed

The bill eliminates a requirement that the comptroller withhold ECS grant money from a town that otherwise is required to appropriate the funds to its board of education because of the school district's low

academic achievement. Instead, the comptroller must transfer the money to the education commissioner to be expended by SDE on behalf of the school district to implement any of the actions listed above for low-achieving schools and districts. (Section 3 of the bill gives the comptroller a similar authority for withholding funds from towns that are designated alliance districts under the bill.)

School Governance Councils

The bill removes the law regarding school governance councils from CGS § 10-223e and moves it, with some changes, to a new section of the bill (see § 20).

Reconstituted School Boards

The bill makes several changes to the law regarding reconstituting local boards of education for low-achieving school districts. The changes involve notice to local officials regarding the electoral process when a reconstitution starts and when it concludes.

By law, SBE may authorize the commissioner to reconstitute a local board of education in a low-achieving district. The bill requires the electoral process regarding the board to be suspended for the period of reconstitution (by law, an initial three years with the option to extend for an additional two). The bill defines the electoral process to include (1) candidate nominations by political parties, (2) nominating petitions, (3) write-in candidacies, and (4) filling board vacancies.

Upon terminating a local or regional board under the existing law, the bill requires the commissioner to notify the:

1. town clerk in the school district, or clerk of each member town in the case of a regional board of education, and
2. the secretary of the state (SOTS).

The termination notice must include the termination date and the positions terminated.

The bill requires the commissioner to decide whether he will extend

the life of a reconstituted board by two years at least 180 days before the three-year terms ends. As under current law, he can do this only if the district fails to show adequate improvement, as determined by SBE.

When a reconstituted board is reaching its conclusion, the bill requires the commissioner to notify the town clerk or clerks, as appropriate, and the SOTS at least 175 days before the reconstituted board's term ends. When the SOTS receives the notice, the electoral process begins according to municipal election law. If the notice is delivered before the time specified in law for party nominations for municipal offices, the office can be placed, with the approval of the local legislative body, on the ballot of a regular fall election.

§ 17—COMMISSIONER'S NETWORK PLAN

The bill requires the education commissioner to establish a commissioner's network for 10 low-performing schools to improve student academic achievement. The schools must be chosen from among the schools ranked in the bottom 5% when all schools are ranked highest SPI to lowest (see § 16), except that no more than two schools can be in one district.

The bill requires the commissioner to develop a plan that includes:

1. an operations and instructional audit, as described in the school accountability law, for each school selected;
2. an outline of the commissioner's authority to operate the financial and academic administration of the schools;
3. the turnaround model selected for each school, including CommPACT schools as described in law; and
4. provisions requiring any matters in a turnaround plan for a school that conflicts with an existing teacher or administrator union contract be negotiated under the expedited collective bargaining process established as part of the Windham special

master law.

The network plan must be implemented for the school year commencing July 1, 2012. The commissioner must submit the plan to the Education Committee by August 1, 2012.

§ 18—FAMILY RESOURCE CENTERS AND SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CLINICS

Starting with the 2012-13 school year, the commissioner must annually establish a family resource center, according to state law, or a school-based health clinic in category four or five schools located in an alliance district. No more than 20 family resource centers and school-based health clinics may be established this way.

By law, family resource centers are located in elementary schools and provide services including: (1) child care and school readiness for children age three and older who are not otherwise enrolled in school and (2) various services to parents of newborns, including parenting skills and educational services to parents who are interested in obtaining a high school diploma or general education diploma (GED).

§ 19—PLAN TO ENCOURAGE EXEMPLARY TEACHERS AND ADMINISTRATORS

The bill requires SDE to develop a comprehensive plan to encourage exemplary teachers and administrators, as identified by the bill's performance evaluations and other measures, to work in the state's lowest-performing schools and school districts and enhance the education profession's career ladder in these schools. The SBE must (1) approve the plan; (2) provide funding to develop and implement it; and (3) adopt regulations or issue orders, as appropriate, to ensure that it is implemented.

The plan must:

1. encourage individuals to pursue and maintain careers in education in low-performing schools and school districts;
2. identify professional and financial incentives, including salary

increases, signing bonuses, stipends, housing subsidies, and housing opportunities that will encourage exemplary teachers and administrators to work and remain in these schools and school districts; and

3. expand the capacity of the state's nonprofit and private organizations to stimulate teacher and administrator leadership and career advancement opportunities in low-performing schools and school districts, and enable other organizations to do the same.

§ 20—SCHOOL GOVERNANCE COUNCILS

The bill makes changes to the law regarding school governance councils.

The law (1) requires boards of education that have jurisdiction over schools designated as low-achieving to establish a school governance council for each such school and (2) allows boards with schools designated as “in need of improvement” to create them. The law also makes exceptions to the requirement for schools with only one grade and for governance councils already in place when the governance council law was enacted that involve teachers, parents, and others.

After July 1, 2012, the bill requires all school boards that have category four and five schools to establish councils for each of those schools.

By law, the councils must consist of seven parents or guardians of students, two community leaders within the school district, five teachers who teach in the school, and one nonvoting member who is the principal or his or her designee. Councils for high schools must also have two nonvoting student members.

The councils have a number of responsibilities named in statute including analyzing school achievement data, participating in hiring the principal and other administrators, and developing and approving a written parent involvement policy. A council may also recommend

that a school be reconstituted and this recommendation sets off a series of statutorily required steps.

The bill makes numerous conforming and technical changes.

§§ 21-25—ACCOUNTABILITY LAW, SCHOOL GOVERNANCE COUNCILS

These sections make conforming and technical changes.

§ 26—COLLEGE APPLICATION ASSISTANCE GRANTS

The bill requires the education commissioner to establish a competitive grant for FY 13, within available appropriations, to share the cost of providing training and help to encourage students to apply for, enroll in, and graduate from college. Local and regional boards of education, municipalities, and nonprofit organizations may apply for the grants.

Grant-funded programs must (1) provide students with (a) training and assistance in the college application process, (b) the federal student aid application, and (c) college and university applications, and (2) cover the cost of college application fees. No more than 25% of the total grant may be used for application fees.

Grant recipients must provide matching funds equal to the state grant. The matching funds may come from public or private sources. Municipalities may use money from ECS grants to contribute matching funds to their local or regional boards of education or nonprofit organizations in the municipality.

Grant applicants must apply by June 1 of the fiscal year before the grant is to be paid on a form approved by the education commissioner (see COMMENT).

§ 27—INNOVATION SCHOOL GRANTS AND CRITERIA

The bill requires SDE to establish a pilot grant program for the 2012-13 school year, within available appropriations, for a local or regional board of education operating an innovation school the education

commissioner determines will help the state meet the desegregation goals of the 2008 *Sheff v. O'Neill* stipulation and court order. It establishes an application process and criteria for awarding the grants.

By law, a board of education for a priority school district can convert an existing school to, or establish a new school as, an “innovation school” through agreements with the teacher and administrator unions for the purpose of improving school performance and student achievement. Such schools must have innovation plans that detail areas of autonomy and flexibility in curriculum, budget, school schedule and calendar, school district policies, professional development, and staffing policies.

Applications

The bill authorizes the education commissioner to establish the time and manner for submitting innovation school grant applications. (The bill specifies that the applications are filed annually although it establishes the grant program only for the 2012-13 school year.) He must consider the following when deciding whether to approve an application and award a grant:

1. whether the school’s program provides a reduced racial isolation educational program;
2. whether it is likely to increase student achievement;
3. whether the program is unique and will not adversely affect enrollment in an existing interdistrict magnet school, regional vocational-technical school, or regional vo-ag education center program in the region;
4. the school’s proposed operating budget and funding sources.;
and
5. any other factors he considers appropriate.

State Per-Pupil and Operating Grants

The bill requires the state provide a grant of \$4,000 for:

1. each Hartford student attending an innovation school outside of Hartford that enrolls at least 25% of its students from Hartford and
2. each student from outside of Hartford attending a Hartford innovation school that enrolls at least 25% nonminority students.

In addition, the commissioner may, within available appropriations, provide operating grants of up to \$250,000 in a fiscal year to enhance educational programs at innovation schools.

Construction Grants

A board of education operating an innovation school that helps the state meet *Sheff* goals can also qualify for bonus school construction reimbursement rates if the school is either outside Hartford and enrolls at least 25% of its students from Hartford or within Hartford and enrolls at least 25% nonminority students.

The bonus reimbursement rate is the district's regular reimbursement percentage plus 20 percentage points, up to a maximum reimbursement of 80%. Regular state reimbursements for school construction run from 10% to 80% of eligible costs, depending on the type of project and town wealth. Wealthier towns receive lower reimbursements.

The bonus rate applies to the reasonable costs of any capital expenditure for renovating, altering, or expanding the school's facilities for programmatic purposes, including purchasing equipment. The project must meet the regular statutory requirements for a school building project.

Special Education Costs

For an out-of-district student who requires special education and related services, the bill requires the sending district to pay the district operating the innovation school the difference between the reasonable cost of providing special education services to the student and the amount the host district receives from the innovation grant. The

sending district is eligible for a state reimbursement grant for any such costs exceeding 4.5 times its average per-pupil expenditure for the previous year.

Permitting Out-of-District Students to Continue in the Host District

The bill requires a board of education operating an innovation school to allow out-of-district students enrolled in the school to continue to attend school in a host district until they graduate from high school, regardless of the grades offered at the innovation school.

§ 28—SCHOOL DISTRICT COST-SAVING GRANTS

The bill allows the education commissioner, within available appropriations, to provide grants to support school districts in developing plans to implement significant cost savings while maintaining or improving educational quality. The grants must be for technical assistance and regional cooperation.

§ 29—OPEN CHOICE PROGRAM INCENTIVE FOR LARGER DISTRICTS

The bill provides an additional incentive for larger school districts to increase their enrollment of out-of-district students under the Open Choice interdistrict public school attendance program. It does so by giving districts with more than 4,000 students the highest state Open Choice grant (\$6,000 for each out-of-district student) if the education commissioner determines they have increased their Open Choice enrollment by at least 50% on October 1, 2012. Under current law, receiving districts qualify for the \$6,000-per-student grant only if the number of out-of-district students they enroll equals or exceeds 3% of their total enrollment.

§ 30—CONNECTICUT SCHOOL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

The bill requires SDE to create a Connecticut School Leadership Academy program to provide educational management and professional development programs to teachers or school administrators who are either already certified or enrolled in an alternate route to certification (ARC) program. SDE must provide

grants to the academy, within available appropriations. The bill also authorizes the academy to charge tuition to boards of education or participants.

Eligible teachers and administrators must apply to participate in the academy program. The SDE must prescribe the form and manner of the applications.

§ 31—REWARDS FOR EXEMPLARY SCHOOLS

The bill allows SDE to reward exemplary schools. The rewards may include, at the education commissioner's discretion, (1) public recognition, (2) financial awards, or (3) operational flexibility. SDE may also accept private donations for these rewards.

§ 32—EARLY CHILDHOOD QUALITY RATING AND IMPROVEMENT SYSTEM

By law, the state is planning to create a coordinated system of early care and education and child development by July 1, 2013. PA 11-181 required several steps to take place toward creating this system under a planning director in OPM appointed by the governor. The bill makes SDE, rather than the early childhood system, responsible for developing a quality rating and improvement system for home-, center-, and school-based early child care and learning. It requires the early childhood system to incorporate SDE's rating system.

§ 33—NEW SCHOOL READINESS SLOTS

For FY 13, the bill requires the education commissioner to provide funds to appropriate school districts to create:

1. 600 new slots in school readiness programs located in the 10 districts with the lowest district performance indices ("educational reform districts" – see § 3 above) and
2. 400 new slots in competitive school districts.

A "competitive school district" is a district with more than 9,000 students that (1) has a priority school or former priority school (i.e., a

school where at least 40% of the school lunches served are free or reduced-price) or (2) is not a priority school district but whose town is one of the 50 poorest in the state when considering adjusted equalized grand net list, student population, and population (CGS § 10-16aa).

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§ 34—BLOOMFIELD MAGNET SCHOOL EXEMPTION

The bill extends for an additional year, through FY 12, an exemption for the Big Picture Magnet School, an approved interdistrict magnet school operated by Bloomfield, from statutory student diversity requirements for interdistrict magnet schools. These requirements (1) limit the number of students from any of the school's participating towns to 75% of its total enrollment and (2) specify that students of racial minorities must comprise at least 25% but no more than 75% of a school's student body.

The bill's exemption allows the school to continue receiving a state magnet school operating grant in FY 12. Starting July 1, 2012, the school must reopen as The Global Experience Magnet School under an operation plan approved by the education commissioner. For purposes of meeting diversity requirements for interdistrict magnet schools, the bill specifies that the school is considered to have begun operating as of that date, thus, by law, giving it until its second year of operation to meet the desegregation requirements of the *Sheff v. O'Neill* settlement. The education commissioner can grant an extension for one additional year.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§ 35—DISSEMINATING INFORMATION ON SCHOOL OPTIONS

Under current law, each local or regional board of education must provide its students full access to technical high schools, regional vo-ag centers, interdistrict magnet schools, charter schools, and interdistrict student programs for recruitment purposes (other than recruiting for interscholastic athletic competition). The bill also requires each board of education to post information about these

school options on its website and makes technical changes.

§§ 36-54—TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL SYSTEM

New Governing Board

The bill changes the name of the regional vocational-technical (V-T) schools to the technical high school system (CTHSS) and creates a new 11-member board of education to govern it. Under current law, the V-T schools are under the authority of the SBE and its technical high school subcommittee.

The new board consists of the following:

1. four executives of Connecticut-based employers appointed by the governor from nominees submitted by the statewide industry advisory committees for career clusters offered by the CTHSS and the community-technical colleges,
2. five members appointed by SBE, and
3. the economic and community development and labor commissioners.

The governor must appoint the chairperson, who serves as a nonvoting ex-officio member of the SBE. The bill increases the number of SBE members by one, from 13 to 14, on and after July 1, 2012, to reflect the addition of the CTHSS chairperson.

CTHSS Superintendent

The bill requires the CTHSS board to recommend a candidate for superintendent of the system to the SBE to appoint. It makes the superintendent responsible for the system's operation and administration.

Budget Process

The bill requires each technical high school to prepare a proposed operating budget for the next school year, and submit it to the system superintendent. The superintendent must collect, review, and use each

school's proposed operating budget to prepare a proposed operating budget for the CTHSS system.

The bill requires the superintendent to submit a proposed operating budget for the system to the CTHSS board. If the board disapproves it, it must adopt an interim budget, which takes effect at the start of the fiscal year and remains in effect until the superintendent submits and the board approves a modified operating budget. The superintendent must submit a copy of the approved operating budget to OPM.

By law, the superintendent must, twice a year, submit the operating budget for each technical high school to OPM, the Office of Fiscal Analysis, and the Education Committee.

Conforming Changes

The bill makes numerous technical and conforming changes to reflect the name change and the responsibilities of the new board and its chairperson. Under existing law, the superintendent is required to (1) meet with specified legislative committees by November 30 annually about the system and (2) consult with the labor commissioner on the creation of an integrated system of statewide advisory committees for career clusters offered by the CTHSS. The bill requires the superintendent to perform these tasks with the board chairperson.

§ 55—SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT CERTIFICATION WAIVERS

The bill gives local and regional boards of education additional flexibility to appoint, with the education commissioner's approval, school superintendents who are not state-certified.

Appointment as Acting Superintendent

The law requires a person serving as a school superintendent to have a Connecticut superintendent certificate. But the law also allows a board of education, with the education commissioner's approval, to appoint as acting school superintendent someone who does not have a Connecticut certificate.

This bill extends the maximum duration of an acting

superintendent's appointment from a specified period of up to 90 days, with commissioner-approved good cause extensions, to up to one school year. It also:

1. makes the acting superintendent's term a probationary period;
2. requires the acting superintendent, during the probationary period, to successfully complete the Connecticut School Leadership Academy program the bill establishes (see § 30 above); and
3. eliminates any option to extend an acting superintendent's employment beyond the probationary period.

Instead, the bill allows an employing school board, at the end of a probationary period, to ask the commissioner to waive certification, thus allowing the board to appoint the acting superintendent as the district's permanent superintendent.

Superintendent Certification Waiver

By law, the education commissioner may waive certification for a school superintendent who (1) has at least three years of successful experience in the past 10 in another state as a certified administrator in a public school with a superintendent certificate issued by another state or (2) the commissioner considers to be exceptionally qualified.

In the latter case, in addition to being exceptionally qualified, the bill also requires the waiver candidate to have successfully completed the probationary period as acting superintendent. Current law only requires the person to be an acting superintendent. The bill eliminates requirements that, to be exceptionally qualified, the person also (1) have worked as a school superintendent in another state for at least 15 years and (2) be or have been certified as a superintendent by the other state.

§ 56—TEACHER TERMINATION

The bill gives local and regional boards of education additional

grounds to terminate a teacher for cause. It streamlines and shortens teacher termination notice and hearing requirements and specifies that most deadlines in the process must be counted in calendar days. It specifies that the following periods are to be counted in calendar days as well: (1) the minimum 90-day period of required work for a board of education before a teacher is covered by the law's tenure and for-cause termination provisions and (2) the maximum 35-day period within which a school board must accept or reject a school superintendent's candidates for teaching positions in schools under the board jurisdiction. The latter period applies in cases where a school board has not delegated final hiring authority to the school superintendent.

Under both current law and the bill, the tenure and termination provisions apply to all certified professional school board employees below the rank of school superintendent who are defined collectively as "teachers."

Grounds for Teacher Termination

By law, a teacher may be dismissed only for specified reasons. The bill allows districts to terminate a teacher on the grounds of ineffectiveness as well as for inefficiency or incompetence. As under current law, the determination that a teacher is incompetent or ineffective must be based on evaluations that comply with SBE guidelines for evaluating teachers.

The bill does not change the other permissible grounds for teacher termination, namely:

1. insubordination against reasonable board of education rules;
2. moral misconduct;
3. disability proven by medical evidence;
4. elimination of the position to which the teacher was appointed or loss of a position to another teacher, as long as there is no other position for which the teacher is qualified and subject to

the applicable provisions of a collective bargaining agreement or school board policy; or

5. other due and sufficient cause.

In addition, by law, a board of education may notify nontenured teachers, in writing, by May 1st of any school year that their contracts will not be renewed for the following year. The school board does not have to specify any reason for nonrenewal unless the teacher files a written request for the reason.

Termination Hearing Requirements and Procedures

By law, tenured and nontenured teachers are entitled to a hearing before being terminated for cause. Nontenured teachers are also entitled to a hearing when their contracts are not renewed for any reason other than elimination of the teacher's position or loss of the position to another teacher ("bumping").

The bill makes several changes to streamline the process for these hearings. It:

1. eliminates the maximum 14 days currently allowed for a tenured teacher who receives a termination notice to file a written request for the reasons and the board to provide written reasons and instead requires the board to state the reasons in the written termination notice;
2. for a nontenured teacher, establishes a three-day deadline after receiving notice of termination or nonrenewal to request the reasons and reduces the deadline for the board of education to supply written reasons from seven to four days after receiving the teacher's request;
3. shortens the deadline for a teacher to request a hearing from 20 to 10 days after he or she receives a termination or nonrenewal notice;
4. eliminates the teacher's or board's option to choose a hearing

before a three-member impartial hearing panel while maintaining existing options for a hearing before (a) an impartial hearing officer chosen by the teacher and the school superintendent, or (b) the full board of education or a three-member subcommittee; and

5. requires a board subcommittee or hearing officer to submit findings and recommendations on the case to the board of education within 45, rather than 75, days after the hearing request, unless the parties mutually agree to a maximum 15-day extension.

Table 3 compares the current and proposed teacher termination processes. The bill specifies that all the days in the process are calendar days.

Table 3: Teacher Termination Process

<i>Action</i>	<i>Deadlines Under Current Law</i>	<i>Deadline Changes Under the Bill</i>
School board notifies teacher in writing that it is considering termination or a nontenured teacher that his or her contract will not be renewed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Termination notice: Anytime Nonrenewal notice: By May 1 annually 	No change
Teacher files written request asking the board to state its reasons for the action	Tenured teacher: 7 days after receiving notice Nontenured teacher: No time limit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Termination: Not applicable (bill requires termination notice to state reasons) Nonrenewal: Within three days after receiving the notice
Board notifies teacher in writing of reasons.	7 days after board receives request.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Termination: Not applicable Nonrenewal: Within four days after the board receives the request
Teacher files written request for a hearing	Within 20 days after teacher receives termination or nonrenewal notice.	Within 10 days after the teacher receives the notice
Hearings begin (Hearings may be public at the teacher's request or if designated by the board or hearing officer. The teacher may appear and be	Within 15 days after the board receives the hearing request; parties may mutually agree to extend this deadline for a maximum of 15 days	Specifies calendar days

Action	Deadlines Under Current Law	Deadline Changes Under the Bill
represented by counsel.)		
Board subcommittee or hearing officer submits written findings and recommendations to the full board concerning the case and sends a copy to the teacher	Within 75 days after the hearing request unless the parties agree to extend for a maximum of 15 days	Within 45 calendar days after the hearing request unless the parties agree to extend for a maximum of 15 calendar days
Board gives teacher its written decision	Within 15 days of receiving the recommendations or, if the hearing takes place before the full board, within 15 days after the close of the hearing.	Specifies calendar days.
Board furnishes a copy of the hearing transcript if the teacher requests one in writing and pays the cost.	Within 15 days of the decision	No change
Teacher may appeal board's decision to Superior Court.	Within 30 days after the decision (Nontenured teachers may appeal to court only if termination is for moral misconduct or disability)	Specifies calendar days
Maximum Time From Notice to Board Decision	155 Days	115 Days

§ 57—PLAN FOR LINKING EVALUATIONS AND TENURE

The bill requires the education commissioner to consult with the Performance Evaluation Advisory Council (PEAC) and develop a plan for linking teacher and administrator evaluation and support programs with the attainment and maintenance of tenure (see BACKGROUND). The plan must:

1. describe how performance evaluation ratings relate to determinations of whether a teacher or administrator is effective or ineffective for purposes of attaining tenure;
2. develop a process for validating evaluations used for (a) attaining and losing tenure and (b) obtaining a distinguished educator designation under the bill (see § 63); and
3. address issues arising when teachers or administrators are identified as ineffective by two or more boards of education.

The commissioner must submit the plan to the Education Committee by January 1, 2013.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§ 58—TEACHER EVALUATION PROGRAMS

The bill expands the required components of (1) local school districts' teacher and school administrator evaluation programs and (2) state guidelines for a model teacher evaluation program. By law, SBE, in consultation with the PEAC, must adopt guidelines for the model program by July 1, 2012. Teacher evaluation programs used by local school districts must be consistent with the state's model.

School District Teacher Evaluation Programs

By law, a school superintendent must continuously evaluate his or her school district's teachers or cause them to be evaluated. ("Teachers" include all certified professional employees below the rank of superintendent.) School boards must develop the evaluation programs with the advice and assistance of the teachers' and school administrators' collective bargaining representatives. They must be consistent with SBE guidelines and with any other guidelines established by mutual agreement between the board and the unions. Evaluations must address, at least, a teacher's strengths, areas needing improvement, improvement strategies, and multiple indicators of student academic growth.

This bill (1) requires district evaluations to be annual rather than continuous; (2) reiterates that districts must evaluate administrators as well as teachers; and (3) requires the programs to include support, not only evaluation. It allows district programs to include periodic ("formative") evaluations during the year leading up to the final, overall ("summative") annual evaluation. Under the bill, any teacher or administrator who does not receive a summative evaluation during the school year must be rated "proficient" for that year.

Current law requires each superintendent to report to his or her board of education by June 1 annually on the status of the evaluations. The bill also requires superintendents to report annually to the education commissioner on the implementation of evaluations,

including their frequency, aggregate evaluation ratings, the numbers of teacher and administrators not evaluated, and other requirements as determined by SDE. The bill does not specify a due date for these reports.

State Model Teacher Evaluation Program

Current law requires SBE to adopt guidelines for a state model evaluation program for teachers by July 1, 2012. The bill explicitly requires the guidelines to apply to administrators as well as teachers.

Current law requires the model to provide guidance on using multiple indicators of student academic growth in evaluations and to include:

1. ways to measure student academic growth;
2. consideration of “control” factors tracked by the expanded public school data system that could influence teacher performance, such as student characteristics, attendance, and mobility; and
3. minimum requirements for evaluation instruments and procedures.

The bill also requires the guidelines to provide for:

1. using four ratings to evaluate teacher performance: (a) exemplary, (b) proficient, (c) developing, and (d) below standard;
2. scoring systems to determine the ratings;
3. periodic training on the evaluation program both for teachers and administrators being evaluated and for administrators performing evaluations, offered by the school district or its RESC;
4. professional development based on individual or group needs

identified through evaluations;

5. opportunities for career development and professional growth; and
6. a validation procedure for SDE or an SDE-approved third party entity to audit ratings of below standard or exemplary for any teacher or administrator.

For teachers and administrators whose performance is rated below standard or developing, the bill requires the guidelines to call for improvement and remediation plans that:

1. are developed in consultation with the affected employee and his or her union representative;
2. identify resources, support, and other methods to address documented deficiencies;
3. show a timeline for implementing such measures in the same school year as the plan is issued; and
4. provide success indicators that include a minimum overall rating of proficient at the end of the improvement and remediation plan.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§ 59—TEACHER EVALUATION IMPLEMENTATION STUDY

The bill requires UConn's Neag School of Education to study the implementation of teacher and administrator evaluation and support programs adopted by local and regional boards of education. Neag must (1) compare the programs adopted in 10 districts selected by the education commissioner to SBE's guidelines, (2) analyze their administration and results, and (3) submit the study to the Education Committee by October 1, 2013.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§§ 60-62 & 65-77—TEACHER AND SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR CERTIFICATION

The bill revamps Connecticut's teacher and school administrator certification system by (1) eliminating the provisional certificate from the state's three-level certification structure, reducing it to two levels; (2) requiring an applicant for a professional certificate (except one from out-of-state) to have a relevant master's degree rather than merely 30 credits beyond a bachelor's degree; and (3) revising professional development to emphasize improved practice and individual and small-group coaching as part of the teacher's job instead of requiring 90 hours of professional development, known as "continuing education units" (CEUs), every five years.

The bill also creates a state-issued "distinguished educator designation" for highly qualified and experienced teachers (see § 63).

The bill applies to certificates issued on or after July 1, 2014 (see COMMENT). It also makes technical and conforming changes and repeals obsolete provisions (§§ 65-77).

Initial Educator Certificates

The bill extends the duration of an initial certificate from three to eight years and allows the SBE to approve up to two one-year extensions. Current law allows the education commissioner to approve a single one-year extension for good cause. It eliminates the requirement that the superintendent of the holder's employing district or the assessment team reviewing the holder's performance request the extension.

The bill requires SBE to renew an initial certificate if the holder is not serving in either a public school or private special education facility during the eight-year certificate term plus the two-year extension, if any. Thus, time not working as a teacher in a public school or private special education facility does not count against the certificate term. It also allows graduates of master's, as well as baccalaureate, teacher preparation or equivalent programs to qualify for initial certificates, if the programs are SBE-approved or taken at an

accredited college or university.

The bill is ambiguous about whether private school teachers can hold initial certificates. For example, its provisions relating to initial certificates refer only to teaching in a public school or private special education facility. But it also maintains existing provisions allowing private school teaching under an initial certificate to count as required experience for a professional certificate.

Provisional Educator Certificates

As of July 1, 2014, the bill eliminates the provisional certificate, which currently serves as a transition between the initial and professional certificates. Under current law, SBE must issue a provisional certificate to teacher who:

1. successfully completes Connecticut's beginning teacher education and mentoring (TEAM) program and at least one year of successful teaching in a public school or
2. has taught successfully for at least three years in the last 10 in a public or private school approved by SBE or the appropriate governing body in another state.

A provisional certificate is good for up to eight years. A holder may appeal to the education commissioner for an extension if he or she is unable to complete the professional educator requirements within that required time. In such cases, the commissioner can grant up to one extension of up to 24 months on the basis of the applicant's personal hardship or because of an emergency shortage of certified teachers in the applicant's employing school district. The bill restricts these extensions to provisional certificate holders whose certificates are issued before July 1, 2014 (§ 60).

Professional Educator Certificates

The bill raises the qualifications for a professional certificate by requiring an applicant to hold a master's degree rather than, as current law requires, merely to successfully complete (1) before July 1, 2016, 30

hours of graduate or undergraduate credit beyond a bachelor's degree or (2) on or after July 1, 2016, 30 hours of graduate credit. The bill also requires the master's degree to be (1) in an area that relates directly to the teacher's ability to improve teaching and learning and (2) from an accredited college or university or an SBE-approved program. It eliminates the requirement that the applicant provide evidence that he or she completed the required coursework.

The bill also requires an applicant to (1) successfully complete at least three years of effective, rather than satisfactory, teaching in a public or nonpublic school or under an initial, rather than a provisional, certificate and (2) have a record of effectiveness, rather than competence, while holding the initial certificate.

Under the bill, neither the master's degree nor the experience requirement applies to a teacher who is certified in another state and seeking a Connecticut certificate (see below).

The bill does not define "effectiveness" for purposes of qualifying for a professional certificate. But, it states that a signed recommendation from the applicant's school superintendent or private special education facility supervisory agent is evidence of effectiveness. The bill specifies that the required three years of effective teaching under an initial certificate can be in an SBE-approved private special education facility as well as a public or other nonpublic school.

With two exceptions, the bill requires a professional certificate candidate to have successfully completed the TEAM program if there is one for his or her endorsement area. (This qualification currently applies to candidates for provisional certificates.) As under current law, the TEAM program exceptions apply to:

1. out-of-state teachers who have taught under an appropriate certificate for at least three years and
2. Connecticut teachers who have taught for at least three years in the last 10.

Certification for Out-Of-State Teachers

The bill makes it easier for certified teachers who taught in other states, U.S. possessions or territories, the District of Columbia, or Puerto Rico to obtain Connecticut teaching certificates. It requires SBE to issue:

1. an initial certificate to an out-of-state teacher if he or she has taught under an appropriate certificate in the other jurisdiction for at least one year in the past five instead of three years in the past 10 and
2. a professional certificate to an out-of-state teacher with that experience and, before July 1, 2016, 30 credit hours of graduate or undergraduate coursework beyond a bachelor's degree and on or after that date, 30 hours of graduate coursework.

The bill's professional certificate requirements for teachers from out-of-state are lower than those that apply to Connecticut applicants who, under the bill, must have a minimum of three years of effective teaching experience and a master's degree in a relevant area.

The bill also changes the one-year nonrenewable temporary certificate for an out-of-state teacher to a one-year nonrenewable initial certificate. This certificate allows a teacher who lived or was trained out-of-state and who meets all other Connecticut certification requirements to defer Connecticut's required teacher competency testing for one year (CGS § 10-145f (c)).

Current law, unchanged by the bill, allows a person who holds a valid teaching certificate in another state to be awarded a Connecticut certificate without completing Connecticut's teacher testing requirements if he or she meets certain standards and teaches successfully in Connecticut for one year. The person must have either (1) three years of experience in the last 10 teaching the subject for which he or she is seeking Connecticut certification in a public school or state-approved private school in the other state or (2) at least a master's degree in that subject (CGS § 10-145f (f)).

Finally, the bill maintains the current requirement that SBE issue an appropriate Connecticut certificate to any out-of-state teacher who holds a national board certification from an organization the education commissioner considers appropriate. But, it eliminates the current requirement that such a teacher also have at least three years of teaching experience in the past 10 in the other jurisdiction.

Temporary 90-Day Certificates

The bill eliminates a temporary 90-day certificate issued at the request of a local or regional board of education for graduates of alternative route to certification (ARC) programs. It also eliminates a requirement that an employing board of education request the SBE to issue the certificate and attest to a special plan for supervising the certificate holder.

Instead, it requires SBE to issue an initial certificate to ARC program graduates who qualify.

Professional Development Requirements

By law, unchanged by the bill, professional certificates are renewable every five years. The bill eliminates the requirement that professional certificate holders successfully complete 90 CEUs every five years as a condition of certificate renewal. Instead, it requires all certified employees, including initial certificate holders, to “participate” in professional development programs. Under current law, initial and provisional certificate holders do not need CEUs.

Program Design. Current law requires school districts to make available for continuing education credit at least 18 hours of professional development for certified employees at no cost. The bill requires that a preponderance of the 18 hours be in a small-group or individual instructional setting. It does not define a “small group instructional setting.” It is also unclear how the 18-hour requirement will be measured for professional development delivered on an individual or small-group basis.

The bill requires the education commissioner, rather than the SBE,

to approve continuing education providers that are not either boards of education or RESCs.

It also requires district professional development programs to:

1. whenever possible and appropriate, include opportunities for integrating (a) reading instruction, (b) literacy and numeracy enhancement, (c) cultural awareness, and (d) strategies to improve English language learner instruction into teacher practice;
2. be used to improve teacher practice based on general results and findings from teacher evaluations reported by the school superintendent or designee;
3. be comprehensive, sustained, and intensive enough to improve teacher and administrator effectiveness in raising student achievement;
4. foster collective responsibility for improving student performance;
5. be (a) aligned with state standards, (b) conducted among educators at the school, and (c) facilitated by principals, coaches, mentors, and master or lead teachers; and
6. occur frequently for teachers individually or in groups, within their jobs, and as part of a continuous improvement process.

Program Content. The bill maintains a requirement that school superintendents and other administrators complete at least 15 hours of professional development every five years in teacher evaluation and support. It eliminates the following professional development requirements:

1. for those with childhood nursery through grade three endorsements, at least 15 hours of training in teaching reading, reading readiness, and reading assessment;

2. for those with elementary, middle, or secondary academic endorsements, at least 15 hours in how to use computers in the classroom unless they can demonstrate competency; and
3. for those with bilingual endorsements, training in language arts, reading, or math for elementary school teachers and in the subject they teach, for secondary school teachers.

It also eliminates (1) professional development completion deadline extensions for certificate holders who were unemployed or members of the General Assembly during the five-year period, (2) a requirement that professional certificate holders attest that they have successfully completed the 90 CEUs at the end of each five-year period, and (3) a requirement that the state and local school districts share the cost of required professional development activities.

SDE Audits and Penalties. By law, SDE must notify a school board of its failure to meet the professional development requirements. The bill also requires SDE to audit district professional development programs and allows SBE to assess financial penalties against districts it finds out of compliance based on such an audit.

Under the bill, SBE can require a school board to forfeit an SBE-determined amount from its state grants, to be assessed in the fiscal year after the determination of noncompliance. SBE can waive the penalty if it determines the noncompliance was due to circumstances beyond the school board's control.

School Social Workers. School social workers who hold both a state social work license and a professional educator certificate are currently allowed to meet the 15-hour-per-year professional development requirement for maintaining a social worker license by successfully completing the CEUs required for renewal of a professional educator certificate. The bill allows them instead to maintain their social work licenses through the new professional development requirements for professional educators. It eliminates a requirement that the educator professional development completed at

least equal the 15-hour-per-year social work license continuing education requirement.

Teacher Preparation - Computer Training Course

The bill requires students in teacher preparation programs to be encouraged, rather than required, to complete training in computer and other information technology as applied to student learning and classroom instruction, communications, and data management.

Teacher Certification Fees

The bill reduces the fee for a professional certificate from \$375 to \$200. The fee for an initial certificate is unchanged at \$200. The bill also allows the education commissioner to waive any certification fee if he determines that an applicant cannot pay because of extenuating circumstances. By law, an applicant pays the fee when seeking initial issuance of an educator certificate. There are no renewal fees.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

§ 63—DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR DESIGNATION

The bill establishes a new distinguished educator designation for a person who:

1. holds a professional certificate,
2. has taught successfully for at least five years in a public school or SBE-approved private special education facility,
3. has advanced education in addition to a master's degree from a degree or non-degree-granting institution that can include training in mentorship or coaching teachers, and
4. meets performance standards established by SDE.

The bill does not require the institutions providing the additional advanced training to be either accredited or otherwise approved by the SBE or other accrediting body.

The SDE's performance standards must consider demonstrated distinguished practice as validated by SDE or its approved validator. The SBE must renew the designation every five years if the person continues to meet the validated performance standards.

The bill allows those with distinguished educator designations, as well as professional educator certificates, to serve as mentors in the TEAM program. It eliminates provisional certificate holders from such mentorships (§ 69).

The bill establishes a fee of \$200 for a distinguished educator designation and \$50 for a duplicate copy of the designation. The education commissioner can waive any certification fee if he determines that an applicant cannot pay because of extenuating circumstances.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

§ 64—COLLECTIVE BARGAINING REGARDING TEACHING CERTIFICATES AND DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR DESIGNATION

The bill authorizes local and regional boards of education to negotiate over:

1. new salary schedules that align compensation for teachers holding initial or professional teaching certificates as well as other factors and
2. additional compensation for teachers holding the distinguished educator designation who are performing additional responsibilities associated with the designation.

These negotiations apply for collective bargaining agreements effective on and after July 1, 2014, and may be conducted under the standard bargaining conditions or the statutory provision regarding voluntary contract reopening.

BACKGROUND

Charter Schools

Connecticut law defines a charter school as a nonsectarian public school organized as a nonprofit corporation and operated independently of a local or regional board of education. The SBE grants and renews the charters, usually for five years, and, as part of the charter, may waive certain statutory requirements applicable to other public schools. In addition to SBE approval, a local charter school seeking to operate in only one school district must be approved by the local or regional board of education for that district.

A charter school may enroll students in pre-kindergarten through grade 12 in accordance with its charter. Charter schools are open to all students, including special education students, though they may limit the geographic areas from which students may attend. If a school has more applicants than spaces, it must admit students through a lottery.

Performance Evaluation Advisory Council

The Performance Evaluation Advisory Council (PEAC) was established in 2010 to help the SBE develop and implement model teacher evaluation program guidelines and a supporting data system. Its members are:

1. the education and higher education commissioners, or their designees;
2. representative of boards of education, school superintendents, other school administrators, and teachers; and
3. an unspecified number of appropriate people selected by the education commissioner, who must include teachers and experts in performance evaluation processes and procedures.

Teacher Tenure

Teacher and school administrators below the rank of school superintendent (“teachers”) attain tenure after 40 school months (four years) of continuous, full-time employment with the same board of education, if their contracts are renewed for the following school year. Teachers who attain tenure with one board of education and who are

reemployed by the same or another board after a break in service attain tenure after 20 school months (two years) of continuous employment, if their contracts are renewed for the following school year. Tenured teachers who transfer to a priority school district may attain tenure after working 10 months in that district.

Tenured teachers (1) have their contracts automatically renewed from year-to-year; (2) can be dismissed only for statutorily specified reasons; and (3) have the right to bump nontenured teachers from positions for which the tenured teachers are qualified, if the tenured teachers' positions are eliminated.

Related Bill

sHB 5014, favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee, requires (1) the state to add required grants for each charter school to the ECS grants for towns where the charter schools are located and (2) those towns to pay the amounts designated by the education commissioner from those grants to the charter schools' fiscal authorities. But sHB 5014 does not change the town-by-town ECS grants specified in this bill.

COMMENT

Charter School Funding Considered as ECS Grants (§§ 5 & 7)

The legal effect of the bill's provisions requiring state charter school grants to be considered ECS grants is unclear. By law, which the bill does not change, ECS grants go to towns. The bill does not incorporate charter schools or their students into the ECS grant formula. It leaves unchanged the current requirement that students enrolled in state charter schools are not counted by their home districts as resident students for ECS grant purposes, while students attending a local charter school are.

Conflicting Application Deadline and Effective Date for College Application Assistance Grants (§ 26)

The bill establishes the grant program for FY 13 and requires applicants to apply for the grants by June 1 of the fiscal year before the

year the grant is to be paid, which is June 1, 2012. But the section establishing the program does not take effect until July 1, 2012, one month after the application deadline.

No Provisions Addressing Transition to New Certification and Professional Development Systems (§§ 60-63 & 65-77)

The bill's changes in teacher and administrator certification take effect July 1, 2014. But the bill is silent on how the transition from the current certification system must be implemented. It leaves many questions unaddressed, including the treatment of (1) existing initial and professional certificate holders who do not meet the new requirements for those certificates, (2) teachers holding unexpired provisional certificates as of July 1, 2014, and (3) CEUs accumulated before July 1, 2014 toward professional certificate renewals after that date.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 28 Nay 5 (03/26/2012)